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THE RIGHT TO EXPORT ARMS.

THE municipal law regarding sales of arms *pendente bello* has hitherto been rather a rule of practice than a defined international regulation. How important its application is, may be judged from the fact that the transactions in small arms and munitions of the leading French agency in this country during the recent Franco-Prussian war reached an aggregate of thirteen millions of dollars. The latest official demonstration upon this subject does not seem to have settled the right of a nation to sell arms to belligerents. Mr. J. LOWTHER about the first of the present month called the attention of Parliament to alleged international complications occasioned by English export of munitions of war. He maintained that a general prohibitory law would be beneficial, and moved a resolution calling upon Government to endeavor to arrange the matter in concert with other powers. The answers to this proposition by members of the House were, with two unimportant exceptions, altogether unfavorable, and the matter was not pressed to a division. From what was said in the debate, which drew out such conspicuous lawyers as Sir ROUNDELL PALMER and the Attorney-General, it is evident that Great Britain is not inclined to a convention on the subject. The objections to the resolution were based upon the assumption that it would increase the responsibility of neutrals and multiply causes of belligerency, as well as unjustly interfere with domestic trade. Sir ROUNDELL PALMER, admitting that it was not in accordance with commercial morality to drive a trade in arms and ammunition, still asserted the municipal right to such a traffic. "If there were one point in international law," he thought, "which was without all ambiguity and beyond all controversy, it was this, that neutral governments are not bound to prevent the exportation of arms and ammunition, unless they have taken a special obligation to that effect, and that belligerents have a right to stop such a traffic if they can. No belligerent when peace was made had ever yet made this traffic a cause of complaint, nor would the Germans—though, of course, among other modes of damaging their opponents, they had remonstrated against it." The Attorney-General, on the part of the Government, still further assured the House that nothing in the events of the war had affected the question; that Count BERNSTORFF's complaints had been fully rebutted by Earl GRANVILLE, etc.

It is evident that this question of municipal law should be made a matter of convention between States, if for no other purpose than once for all to do away with the occasion for the disputes between belligerents and neutrals which arise the moment two nations go to war. Such demands as that made by Germany on England have uniformly been inoperative. During the Crimean contest England made the same call upon Prussia, and Prussia continued to furnish Russia with arms. In 1793 England protested against arms traffic of European States, basing her complaint, however, upon the assertion that her antagonist had, by violations of the recognized rules of war, become an outcast among nations. But her position was not sustained by Europe, and she herself practically gave it up.

During the war which has humbled France, her great antagonist was not a purchaser of arms of other nations; but it is noteworthy that her attempt to cripple France by separating her entirely from the outside market was not limited to diplomatic correspondence. The report that all the surplus muskets in England were being secured on Prussian account was discredited at the time. That the purpose was entertained, however, not with the view of placing them in the hands of German Landwehr, but of keeping them out of the hands of French francs-tireurs, is unquestionably true.

Soon after the commencement of the war a well-known ordnance broker in the city of New York was addressed by a prominent German gentleman speak-

ing by authority, and who wished to arrange a plan by which all the surplus arms in the United States and all the production of American shops might be controlled in Prussian interests. The idea was to buy up at once all the surplus arms in private hands. Government, it was assumed incorrectly, would not, for political reasons, sell its arms to the French. The amount required to close the first purchase was calculated with liberal provision. This purchase once made, the arms were not to be packed for shipment, but warehoused and mortgaged for the largest possible amount. Thus all the production of the private manufacturers could, it was estimated, be secured for an indefinite period. Several interviews were had by the broker not only with the original proponent, but with Prussian partisans official and unofficial, and the matter was fast assuming shape. At this juncture Government commenced throwing on the market the arms accumulated during our war. This was fatal to the project. One only further effort was made to carry it out. It will be recollect that, at the request of the Prussian Minister, President GRANT ordered a postponement of the second sale of arms, in order to give time for German bids. Doubtless the Prussian intent was not serious to buy; at any rate nothing resulted, as the house acting for Prussia received no award.

THE bill for the abolition of purchase in the British army is evidently a heavy load for Mr. GLADSTONE's administration to carry. It is opposed by the conservatives in the House of Commons, not only because it is a measure originated with their political opponents, but because it touches the pockets of all their poor military relations. The military men sitting on Mr. GLADSTONE's side of the House are also opposed to it, in spite of their disposition to stand by their leader. In this instance they think that charity begins at home, and prefer to consider their own pockets rather than the public interests. It is true that provision is to be made to return them the estimated value of their commissions, but it is impossible to fully recompense men who have invested their capital in the purchase of higher rank in the army. Finally those in the provinces, and in London, to whom Mr. GLADSTONE would naturally look for support against his aristocratic enemies, the working men and others, who are generally arrayed on the side of the Liberals, are disgusted to find that the bill does nothing to cut down useless extravagance in high places; that it increases taxation without apparently increasing England's capacity for defence or her prestige abroad. Still it is probable that Mr. GLADSTONE will carry this measure through, as we certainly hope he will, though it is not unlikely that in so doing he will open the way for the return of the Disraelites to power.

THE *Péreire*, of the French Trans-Atlantic line, outward bound on Saturday, bore the last instalment of breech-loading small arms contracted for by the French government with the REMINGTON company. The whole number furnished by the REMINGTONS to France since the surrender of Sedan reaches 167,000. The original contract, for 50,000, was closed by GAMBETTA, immediately upon the installation of the provisional government.

THE following is a list of the laws passed during the session of Congress just closed, relating to the Army and Navy:

An act relating to condemned cannon for cemetery at San Francisco.

An act authorizing the President to nominate R. H. Lamson a lieutenant in the United States Navy.

Acts authorizing the Secretary of War to place certain condemned cannon at the disposal of the Lyons Monument Association and of the Pennsylvania Commandery of the Military Legion of the city of Philadelphia.

An act for the restoration of Commander George A. Stevens, U. S. Navy, to the active from the retired list.

An act to authorize the payment of duplicate checks of disbursing officers.

An act to authorize the Secretary of War to give Wissell barracks to the Beulah Baptist Church.

THE ARMY.

UNDER the authority heretofore given, the officers and men at the military stations in the Department of the East south of Washington, D. C., are permitted to wear straw hats from June 1 to October 1, 1871. The hats will be uniform at each post.

A TELEGRAM from Yankton, dated the 26th of April, gives the following items: A late arrival from Fort Buford reports an attack by the Indians on a party of nine white men sixty miles beyond that place. Charles Hawkins and Thomas Harrington were killed. They were from near Omaha. William Reynolds, of Indiana, an employee, was wounded, but is recovering. Captain Anderson, of St. Paul, was accidentally shot through the heart by a comrade, at Fort Buford, April 2. A barracks is building at Fort Buford, under the direction of General Blount, quartermaster, to accommodate ten companies of the Eighth Cavalry.

THE following letter from N. W. Brown, assistant paymaster-general U. S. Army, the chief paymaster of the Department of the East, is published for the information and guidance of officers serving in this command: "SIR: To avoid any possible misinterpretation of General Orders No. 37, Adjutant-General's office, current series, as to the manner of calculating the money allowances for clothing, and the consequent delay, I would respectfully suggest that a circular letter be addressed from your office to all commanding officers in the department, directing them to settle the clothing account of enlisted men with the United States, from enlistment to the 30th of April, 1871, and to state on the muster and pay rolls for March and April, 1871, as is done on soldiers' final statements, only the balance due from or to the enlisted man, viz:

Due soldier on account of clothing not drawn in kind....."

Due U. S. on account of clothing overdrawn....."

GENERAL Sherman and the members of his staff, who arrived in New Orleans on Thursday, April 20, from Mobile, by special invitation, were entertained by the members of the American Union Club of New Orleans on the evening of that day. In giving a brief account of the affair, the *Republican* says: "The reception was in every sense a success. At first a brief address of welcome was made on behalf of the Club, which was responded to by the General, when the distinguished guest was introduced to members and visitors, and healths drank in bumper. The General was certainly in a happy mood, if, indeed, he is ever in any other, and engaged in the conversation with animation and zest. And well he might be, for he was surrounded by many personal friends and acquaintances, and a large assembly of sincere admirers who ascribe to him a large share of the credit for the success of our arms in the war of the Rebellion. There were two distinguished gentlemen present, however, who trained on the other side, but have since become useful citizens and trusted public officers. We allude to Generals Longstreet and Jeff. Thompson. The meeting between these two gentlemen and General Sherman was extremely cordial and pleasant." From the *Picayune* we quote the following somewhat unsatisfactory synopsis of the remarks of General Sherman:

General Sherman, who was in citizen's dress, upon being introduced, made a short speech, which was received from time to time with applause by those present. In his speech General Sherman referred to the fact that he had once held a commission as colonel of militia of the State of Louisiana, and that he was once at the head of the State Seminary. He said that it always gave him pleasure to visit Louisiana, and to meet, not only the members of the Union Army, but also his old friends upon the other side. "General Bragg and I," said the General, "are close friends, and I know General Beauregard very well, but I have not had the pleasure of meeting him this time. General Hood called upon me to-day, and I intend to call upon him to-morrow." He referred to the fact that he had been to the Boston Club and other places of social gathering in our city, but he said he never let an opportunity slip to impress upon his "rebel friends," as he styled them, the importance of sustaining and perpetuating the Union.

In alluding to the matter of reconstruction General Sherman said that it was a most delicate and difficult problem to solve. England has been endeavoring to reconstruct Scotland for two hundred years, and still who could fail to detect marked characteristics of a Scotchman as he entered the room? There was as much difference between him and an Englishman as there was now and probably would be for many years to come between a Louisiana planter and a Maine lumberman. If a people, he said, like to have laws made for them, they like to have something to do with the making of them themselves. In time, he thought, the people of the South would come around all right, but they wanted it to be seen that the work of reconstruction emanated from themselves.

After the close of the General's speech, he was introduced to the various members of the Club, and presented with three well-filled canteens, bearing

upon them respectively, "Our First Drink, 1840;" "March to the Sea, 1865;" "Our General, 1871." The presentation being over, the cloths were spread, and a collation served. Among those present on the platform were Collector Casey, Colonel Strang, General Beckwith, and Major Roy, the President of the Club.

UNDER the provisions of General Orders No. 17, current series, headquarters of the Army, Adjutant-General's Office, Battery C, Third U. S. Artillery (now at Fort Riley, Kansas), was ordered April 23 to be sent with guns, horses, and equipment complete, without delay, to Louisville, Kentucky, where it will be reported for further instructions to the commanding general Department of the South. The battery will be shipped via the Kansas Pacific, Missouri Pacific, and Ohio and Mississippi Railroads.

THE following is the report of the standing of the enlisted men under instruction at the Artillery School, U. S. Army, as determined by the staff of the school at the annual examination, April, 1870:

NAMES.	MATHEMATICS.	HISTORY.	GEORGRAPHY.	WRITING.	GENERAL MENT.
Corporal F. J. von Rutkowski, Battery A, Third Artillery.....	1 1	2 5	1 1	1 2	1 2
Private B. F. Stocking, Battery H, Third Artillery.....	2 4	3 3	1 1	2 2	5
Corporal J. Kahn, Battery C, Fifth Artillery.....	4 3	1 1	2 2	4	2
Corporal J. E. Mallon, Battery G, First Artillery.....	7 2	4 6	4 6	4	4
Private W. H. Fisher, Battery I, Third Artillery.....	3 6	6 15	5	5	5
Sergeant J. Langan, Battery K, Second Artillery.....	6 9	7 8	6	7	6
Private J. Fennessy, Battery M, Third Artillery.....	5 10	10 7	7	7	7
Private I. Davidson, Battery G, First Artillery.....	10 7	5 12	8	8	8
Private P. McMillan, Battery G, First Artillery.....	8 5	13 9	9	9	9
Sergeant S. Hanes, Battery C, Fifth Artillery.....	9 8	16 17	10	10	10
Private J. Cowan, Battery G, First Artillery.....	12 11	11 14	11	11	11
Corporal C. P. Daley, Battery K, Second Artillery.....	17 14	8 3	12	12	12
Corporal S. Burns, Battery A, Third Artillery.....	15 13	12 11	13	13	13
Sergeant S. W. Johnson, Battery G, First Artillery.....	11 16	15 13	14	14	14
Sergeant A. Newman, Battery K, Second Artillery.....	16 17	9 4	15	15	15
Private J. F. Pitner, Battery C, Fifth Artillery.....	13 18	14 10	16	16	16
Sergeant J. Shea, Battery A, Third Artillery.....	14 12	18 18	17	17	17
Private F. Bedbury, Battery G, First Artillery.....	18 15	17 16	18	18	18

GENERAL ORDERS—SERIES OF 1871.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, WASHINGTON, March 25, 1871.

General Orders No. 35.

Paragraph 1385, Army Regulations of 1863, providing for the safe deposit of the savings of enlisted men, is rescinded, and deposits thereunder will be discontinued. Company commanders and others whose men have claims for such deposits will enter the same as credits on the rolls of the next muster succeeding the receipt of this order, and the paymaster will refund accordingly at the payment on those rolls.

These credits must be entered and paid before the expiration of the fiscal year, not later than at the June muster, as restrictive provisions of law will render it impracticable to pay them after the close of this fiscal year. (See act of February 12, 1868, section 2, and act of July 13, 1870, section 7.)

By order of the Secretary of War.

E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, WASHINGTON, April 20, 1871.

General Orders No. 39.

I. Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, is hereby discontinued as a sub-depot for the Mounted Recruiting Service.

II. The permanent party, recruiting property, and funds will be transferred to St. Louis Arsenal, Missouri, and turned over to the superintendent Cavalry Service.

III. Surgeon Wright and the ordnance sergeant now on duty at the sub-depot will remain until further orders, the latter taking charge of the public buildings.

By order of the Secretary of War.

E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, WASHINGTON, April 21, 1871.

General Orders No. 40.

In the opinion of the Judge-Advocate General of the Army, the sentence of a court-martial in case of an enlisted man should always specify "dishonorable discharge" where such is the intent, or is called for by the nature of the offence; but discharge from the Army is in no case to be made to take effect until after the period of confinement fixed by the sentence.

The action of courts-martial, and of reviewing officers under the proceedings of courts-martial, will hereafter be made to conform to the above principle.

By order of the Secretary of War.

E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, WASHINGTON, April 17, 1871.

General Court-martial Orders No. 4.

In the case of Charles Emhoff, late private Company I, Twenty-third Infantry, sentenced by a General Court-martial "To be confined at hard labor in charge of a guard, at such place as the commanding general of the department may direct, for the period of five years, wearing a ball weighing not less than twelve pounds, attached to his left leg by a chain four feet in length, and to forfeit to the United States all pay and allowances now due or that may become due, except the sum of four dollars of his monthly pay for the same period" (General Court-martial Orders No. 9, dated May 30, 1870); and by a

second court-martial, "In addition to any former sentence he may have received, to be indelibly marked on the left hip with the letter D, two inches in length, and to be then dishonorably discharged and drummed out of the United States service"—of which latter sentence that portion which requires that the prisoner be indelibly marked with the letter D was remitted (General Court-martial Orders No. 13, dated June 21, 1870); and further, by a third court-martial, "In addition to any former sentence he may have received, to be indelibly marked with a letter D two and one half inches long, on his left hip; to be confined at hard labor in charge of a guard at such place as the general commanding the Department may direct for the period of five years, wearing a ball weighing twelve pounds attached to his leg by a chain three feet long," Alcatraz Island, San Francisco Harbor, California, having been designated as the place of confinement (General Court-martial Orders No. 27, dated October 20, 1870, headquarters Department of the Columbia, Portland, Oregon), the prisoner having by virtue of his second sentence been regularly discharged from the service of the United States, was at the time of his third trial not legally triable by court-martial, and his third sentence is therefore inoperative.

By order of the Secretary of War.

E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

ABSTRACT OF SPECIAL ORDERS

Issued from the Adjutant-General's Office for the week ending April 24, 1871.

Tuesday, April 24.

THE extension of leave of absence granted Captain George W. Davis, Fourteenth Infantry, in Special Orders No. 19, March 8, 1871, from headquarters Military Division of the Missouri, is hereby further extended thirty days.

Thursday, April 20.

Upon the recommendation of the Quartermaster-General, Captain James Gilliss, assistant quartermaster, will report without delay to the commanding general Department of Dakota for assignment to duty.

At his own request, Superintendent Henry Smith, national cemetery at Fayetteville, Arkansas, is hereby discharged the service of the United States.

Superintendent Michael J. Partridge is hereby transferred from the national cemetery at Salisbury, North Carolina, to that at Fayetteville, Arkansas, and will proceed without delay to join his proper station.

Friday, April 21.

On being relieved from duty at the Artillery School, Fort Monroe, Virginia, leave of absence for six months is granted to First Lieutenant George F. Barstow, Third Artillery.

Leave of absence for five months, with permission to go beyond the sea, is hereby granted First Lieutenant Charles Harkins, Second Infantry.

On the mutual application of the officers concerned, approved by the regimental commander, the following transfers in the Second Cavalry are hereby announced: First Lieutenant Joshua L. Fowler, from Company C to Company K; First Lieutenant Thomas J. Gregg, from Company K to Company C.

Upon the recommendation of the Quartermaster-General Major James Belger, quartermaster U. S. Army, will report in person to the commanding general Military Division of the South for assignment to duty in charge of the quartermaster's depot at New Orleans, La.

Under special circumstances First Lieutenant Frank W. Hess, Third Artillery, is relieved from the detail to the Artillery School, Fort Monroe, Virginia, by Special Orders No. 97, paragraph 1, March 10, 1871, from this office.

The following transfers in the Third Artillery are hereby announced: First Lieutenant James B. Burbank, from Company G to Company A; First Lieutenant Frank W. Hess, from Company A to Company G.

The telegraphic order of the 20th instant, from this office, to the commanding general Military Division of the South, to direct First Lieutenant James B. Burbank, Third Artillery, to report for duty at the Artillery School, Fort Monroe, Virginia, May 1, 1871, is hereby confirmed.

Saturday, April 22.

Hospital Steward George T. Jefferson will be dishonorably discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving.

Captain Frank T. Bennett, Ninth Cavalry, having completed the settlement of his accounts as Indian agent, will proceed to join his proper station, with permission to delay en route at Santa Fe, New Mexico, for the purpose, as recommended by the Secretary of the Interior, of aiding in preparing certain prosecutions and appearing as a witness in certain cases before the United States court at Albuquerque.

Leave of absence for six months, on surgeon's certificate of disability, is hereby granted Colonel Henry B. Clift, Tenth Infantry.

Leave of absence for six months, on surgeon's certificate of disability, is hereby granted First Lieutenant John B. Guthrie, Eleventh Infantry.

Leave of absence for four months, to take effect when another officer shall have joined the company, is hereby granted First Lieutenant Charles A. Vernou, Fourth Cavalry.

Leave of absence for four months, to take effect when another officer shall have joined the company, is hereby granted Captain Nathaniel Prime, Tenth Infantry.

Monday, April 24.

The leave of absence granted First Lieutenant Albert F. Pike, Third Artillery, in Special Orders No. 54, March 15, 1871, from headquarters Department of the South, is hereby extended five months.

Leave of absence for sixty days is hereby granted Second Lieutenant William M. Bandy, Nineteenth Infantry.

Leave of absence for sixty days is hereby granted Second Lieutenant George H. Cook, Nineteenth Infantry.

ARMY PERSONAL.

ASSISTANT Surgeon John W. Brewer, U. S. Army, was relieved from temporary duty at St. Louis, Missouri, and ordered to Fort Larned, Kansas, April 15.

HOSPITAL Steward Charles A. Sprague, U. S. Army, now at Fort Gibson, C. N., was ordered April 21 to report without delay to the commanding officer of that post for duty.

HOSPITAL Steward Frederic Omeis, U. S. Army, was ordered April 18 to proceed without delay from Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, to Fort Sill, I. T., where he will report to the commanding officer of that post for duty.

THE Senate, in executive session, April 20, confirmed the following nominations: Fifth Artillery—First Lieutenant David A. Kinser to be captain; Second Lieutenants Thomas R. Adams and James Crung to be first lieutenants. Twenty-fourth Infantry—Second Lieutenant R. M. Custer to be first lieutenant.

FIRST Lieutenant J. W. Dillenback, First Artillery, was relieved April 22 from duty as a member of the General Court-martial convened at Fort Hamilton, New York Harbor, and First Lieutenant J. H. Counselman, adjutant First Artillery, detailed a member.

ACTING Assistant Surgeon James M. Laing, U. S. Army, upon being relieved at Fort Larned, Kansas, by Assistant Surgeon J. W. Brewer, U. S. Army, will proceed without delay to Fort Hays, Kansas, where he will report to the commanding officer for duty.

THE following officers reported at headquarters Military Division of the Pacific for the week ending April 18, 1871: Major R. Morrow, paymaster U. S. Army; Assistant Surgeon C. B. Middleton, U. S. Army; First Lieutenant Geo. M. Wheeler, Corps of Engineers U. S. Army.

HOSPITAL Steward Charles Prims, U. S. Army, was relieved April 17 from duty at Crow Creek Agency, and ordered to report to the commanding officer of Grand River Agency for duty, relieving Hospital Steward James D. Sadler, U. S. Army, who will proceed without delay and report to the commanding officer of Fort Randall for duty.

A BOARD of Officers will assemble at Fort Columbus, New York Harbor, April 26, for the examination of George W. Harbinson, late sergeant Forty-fourth Infantry, an applicant for the position of superintendent of national cemeteries. Detail for the board: Lieutenant Colonel T. H. Neill, Sixth Cavalry; Surgeon Charles Page, U. S. Army; First Lieutenant W. C. Beach, Eleventh Infantry.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Ripley, Minnesota, April 19. Detail for the court: Captain E. C. Mason, Twentieth Infantry; Assistant Surgeon C. K. Wine, U. S. Army; First Lieutenant J. A. Manley, Twentieth Infantry; Second Lieutenant W. H. Hamner, Twentieth Infantry; Second Lieutenant J. B. Rodman, Twentieth Infantry; Second Lieutenant Herbert Cushman, Twentieth Infantry. First Lieutenant S. E. Carnross, Twentieth Infantry, judge-advocate.

THE following officers were registered at headquarters Department of the East, for the week ending April 25, 1871: Captain Charles T. Greene, U. S. Army; First Lieutenant E. D. Dimmick, Ninth Cavalry; First Lieutenant V. M. C. Silva, Twenty-first Infantry; Major T. H. Stanton, paymaster U. S. Army; Major J. G. Chandler, quartermaster U. S. Army; Captain Garrick Mallory, U. S. Army; Second Lieutenant H. W. Hawgate, Twentieth Infantry; First Lieutenant Charles Harkins, Second Infantry.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Hamilton, New York Harbor, April 25. Detail for the court: Captain W. L. Haskin, First Artillery; First Lieutenant R. M. Hall, First Artillery; First Lieutenant J. W. Dillenback, First Artillery; First Lieutenant R. G. Shaw, First Artillery; First Lieutenant F. C. Nichols, First Artillery; Second Lieutenant D. M. Taylor, First Artillery; Second Lieutenant H. L. Harris, First Artillery. First Lieutenant J. P. Sanger, First Artillery, judge-advocate.

THE commanding officer of Fort Wadsworth, D. T., was ordered April 16 to detail from his command an escort of one good non-commissioned officer, eight privates of the Twentieth Infantry, and two Indian scouts (the non-commissioned officer and scouts to be well mounted), to report to Mr. James D. Skinner, engineer in charge of a surveying party of the St. Paul and Pacific Railroad, for escort duty from Lac Traverse, Minn., to the Missouri river and return. The escort is expected to be absent on this duty about two months, and will be supplied accordingly.

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL Sheridan, Brigadier-General Forsyth, and Commodore Rogers visited the Royal British Arsenal at Woolwich on the 13th instant, under the authority of a special order from the War Office. They were received by the heads of the gun factories and other departments, and were shown the process of manufacturing the Woolwich guns in various stages, and other operations which the officers of the Arsenal, in the exercise of the discretion vested in them, usually permit foreigners to witness.

OFFICIAL notification having been received at the headquarters Department of the East, of the promotion of the following-named officers of the First and Fifth regiments of Artillery, they were ordered April 23 to proceed without unnecessary delay to join the companies to which their promotion carries them, or to which they are assigned: Second Lieutenant Stanislaus Remak, Company K, Fifth Artillery, to be first lieutenant, vice Cameron. Lieutenant Remak is, on the recommendation of his regimental commander, hereby assigned to Company M, Fifth Artillery, at Fort Preble, Maine. Second Lieutenant William B. McCallum, Company G, Fifth Artillery, to be first lieutenant, vice Gillis, which carries him to Company M, at Fort Preble, Maine. Sec-

ond Lieutenant Isaac T. Webster, Company K, First Artillery, to be first lieutenant, vice Hawes, which carries him to Company I, at Fort Wood, New York Harbor.

THE military record of the present Congress shows in the Senate three major-generals, an additional by brevet; three brigadier-generals and one by brevet; three colonels, one lieutenant-colonel, one captain, one chaplain, one cadet, and one private. The infantry arm of the service is represented by ten Senators, the cavalry by three, and the artillery by one. Seven Senators are members of the Grand Army of the Republic. The House has two hundred and thirty-seven members, of whom sixty-two have been soldiers, fifty with the record of a Union soldier, and twelve with that of a rebel soldier. The people have returned to the House, of the men who served in the Union Army, five who held the rank of major-general and four who held that rank by brevet, seven of the rank of brigadier-general and five by brevet, two colonels and one by brevet, one lieutenant-colonel, three majors with one brevet, five captains, two surgeons, two paymasters, one judge-advocate, one corporal, four privates, and seven soldier members whose rank in the service is unknown. The army of the Rebellion is represented by one major-general, who received his military education at West Point, two brigadier-generals, and ten of various lower grades.

THE DAYTON SOLDIERS' HOME.

COLONEL Emeric Szabad, of the editorial staff of the Cincinnati *Chronicle*, has been visiting the Soldiers' National Home at Dayton, Ohio, and writes an interesting letter about it to his paper. From his letter we extract the following:

What I was most astonished at was the multiplicity of industry thriving in the midst of disabled humanity. Here you meet with a system of division of labor of which even Adam Smith might have felt proud, and side by side with the work-shops are places of wholesome amusement. Briefly to mention the useful arts that flourish at the Soldiers' Home, I have only to say that the tailoring business, boot-making, wire-basket industry, the *métier* of carpenters, joiners, cigar-makers, bakers, gardeners, florists, printers, telegraph operators, all have here their votaries and representatives. More than one poor fellow, who came here with no other knowledge except his practice with the "Johnnies," has learned a trade. Some of the inmates, having thus improved their time, left to shift for themselves, and are doing well. The rules of the Home permit every soldier to leave on application, as also to return if he finds the outer world not suited to his wants and comfort. This system of permitting the invalids to go and return is, I may add, a feature unknown in the European institutions of a similar nature. I used to look with a kind of amazement at the interior of the famous Hotel des Invalides, in Paris, and felt a kind of pride in tasting the soup, the bread and ragout of the veterans of Moscow and Waterloo; but from my present experience I believe that our boys get fully as good, if not better rations, or certainly more variety. For breakfast our soldiers get, for example, ham, potatoes, bread and butter, and coffee; for dinner, soup, boiled beef, vegetables, and pickles; for supper, mush and syrup, warm biscuit, cheese, and tea. This is royal fare. Besides these feeders of the stomach, our soldiers are also liberally supplied with tobacco, and that both for the pipe and chewing practice. Those who receive pensions can dispose of the money as they choose, and there are here fellows who can earn playfully as much as a dollar a day in working. One of the most thriving branches of manufacture in the Home seems to be cigar-making; and with true Adamic weakness for the seducing weed, I asked the Governor, Colonel Brown, to introduce me into this sanctum. Some twenty hands were busy rolling up tobacco leaves, under the command of a well-to-do, gray-bearded Prussian. I found him as proud of his division and their work as the Emperor William is of his army, and he has ample reasons for being so. This little manufactory sends to the market monthly some thirty-five thousand cigars, and, if my testimony is worth anything, I am ready to testify that the article is a good one. These disabled soldiers, in short, have in them the means to provide for all the necessities and some of the luxuries of life, and in some respects their industry extends even beyond the grave. On entering one of the workshops I found, by the side of new chairs and rows of cigar boxes, home-made coffins and tomb-boards with carved inscriptions. Where has disability shown such a variety of skill?

The total number of soldiers at the Home is about 1,250, and of these about one-fourth are, on an average, in the hospital.

THE bids for furnishing stone for the new State Department building were considered by the Committee of Congress, April 26, granite being chosen. As the new buildings for the War and Navy Departments are to be built of the same kind of material, the Committee required evidence showing that the supply necessary for the whole can be furnished by the successful bidder.

A WARRANT for \$19,135 12, the amount due the State of Connecticut as the war claim, was drawn on the 22d of April, at the Treasury Department, in favor of Governor English.

CHANGES OF STATIONS.

This following is a list of the changes of stations of troops reported at the War Department since last report:

Companies C, E, K, and M, Second Cavalry, from Omaha Barracks, Neb., to Grand Island, Neb., April 13. Ordered.

Companies A, B, E, and F, Fourth Cavalry, assigned to duty at Fort Richardson, Tex., March 14.

Company E, Seventh Cavalry, now stationed at Spartanburg, S. C.

Headquarters Fifteenth Infantry, from Fort Craig, N. M., to Santa Fe, N. M., April 14. Ordered.

No change in headquarters or stations of companies of artillery reported at this office since April 14.

THE NAVY.

The Editor invites for this department of the JOURNAL all facts of interest to the Navy, especially such as relate to the movements of officers or vessels.

VARIOUS NAVAL MATTERS.

No further details have been received in relation to the explosion of the boiler of the United States ship *Worcester*.

ADMIRAL Winslow has had manufactured, on behalf of the Government, a gold watch and chain costing \$500, for presentation to Captain Thomas Long, in recognition of his services rendered to the wrecked war steamer *Saginaw*.

THE United States ship *Ticonderoga*, Commander O. C. Badger, U. S. Navy, has sailed for Boston to have a new propeller put on. She has been in commission since the beginning of the year. It is expected that she will eventually go to Brazil.

A PRIVATE letter from an officer of the storeship *Supply*, which was ordered by the Government to convey donations contributed for the sufferers in France, states that the vessel arrived at Havre after a perilous voyage of thirty-one days, during which time she encountered very severe weather.

THE following vessels are stationed at the Naval Academy, at the present time: Frigate *Constitution*, third rate, school ship; frigate *Santee*, third rate, gunning ship; sloop-of-war *Marietta*, fourth rate, practice ship; sloop-of-war *Dale*, fourth rate, practice ship; ironclad *Amphitrite*, third rate, engineering ship; *Phoebe*, steam-tender; yacht *America*, practice vessel.

THE United States Practice Squadron, consisting of the sloop-of-war *Constellation*, twenty-two guns, and *Saratoga*, fourteen guns, will be ready to sail from Annapolis Roads about the 23d of June, and will return to the Naval Academy about the 28th of September. About 160 midshipmen will be embarked on board of the *Constellation*, and sixty on board of the *Saratoga*. The cruise for 1871 will be to the eastward, along the coast of the United States.

A COURT of inquiry, composed of Captain Slicer and Captain Merriman, of the United States Revenue Service, and Lewis Heyl, Esq., one of the legal advisers of the Treasury Department, has commenced its sittings in Wilmington, Delaware, to investigate officially into the circumstances of the loss of the United States revenue cutter *Miami*, while on her way up the bay last winter. The cutter was forced on shore by a field of ice, and in this condition was reduced to a wreck. The proceedings of the court are private.

ADVICES from Hong Kong to March 6 give the following information: "The United States ship *Colorado* was about to sail thence for Manilla. It is thought that after touching there she will proceed up near the scene of the *Don*'s disaster. So far as is yet known, only one American was on board the ill-fated *Don*, which was wrecked and afterward pillaged by the Chinese pirates—Captain J. B. Boswell, formerly of Salem, Mass., who had just piloted the *Colorado* from Shanghai to Japan and up the inland sea.

PURSUANT to orders a Naval General Court-martial convened at the Brooklyn Navy-yard on the 24th instant. The court consists of the following members: Rear-Admiral Charles H. Bell, president; Commodore Napoleon Collins, Captains J. W. A. Nicholson, Thomas G. Corbin, Commanders Edward Barrett, Milton Haxton, and Chester Hatfield. Assistant Paymaster James E. Cann, judge-advocate. Owing to the misspelling of an officer's name who is to be arraigned, the court adjourned until the matter can be adjusted.

THE Navy Department has received despatches from the commanding officer of the *Lancaster*, the flag-ship of our squadron stationed at Montevideo, Uruguay, of the arrival, March 10, at that port, of the British man-of-war *Galatea*. The *Galatea* is commanded by the Duke of Edinburgh, and is on her homeward voyage from a three years' cruise. Prince Alfred came on board the *Lancaster* and was received as a captain. He spent an hour on board inspecting the vessel, and on leaving the honors due a royal prince were paid to him, and like civilities were extended to him by the ships of all nations at that station and on shore.

THE Shanghai *News Letter* of March 13 gives the following naval news: The *Colorado*, flag-ship of Admiral Rodgers, was with the *Falos* at Hong Kong, but may be looked for in this quarter during the coming month. The *Benicia*, lately in quarantine at Yokohama, has gone to Hakodadi. The *Alaska* arrived at Yokohama from Shanghai the day after the quarantine ceased to be enforced, the small-pox having almost entirely disappeared from that station. The *Ashuelot* was at Tientsin, but is expected soon to come south to refit. The *Monocacy* has finished her repairs here, and appears to be as good as new again. Her officers and crew have left the temporary quarters to which they were assigned, while the vessel was in the carpenters' hands, and have gone on board again.

THE Senate in executive session confirmed the nomination of Assistant Naval Constructor Samuel H. Pook, to be naval constructor in the U. S. Navy, with the relative rank of lieutenant-commander. Mr. Pook has designed the models of some of the fastest vessels in the world; among them the celebrated yacht *Idler*, which came in second in the recent international yacht race for the Queen's cup; also a ship, the *St. John*, for Messrs. Chapman & Flint of New York, which recently made the passage from New York to San Francisco in the unprecedented time of ninety-one days, carrying at the same time a larger cargo than vessels of her class. His designs for war vessels have been accepted by the Russian, Spanish, and Turkish Governments. He has also recently designed plans for iron-clad vessels, now on exhibition in the Navy Department. Mr. Pook is a son of

Naval Constructor S. M. Pook, U. S. Navy, who during the war purchased and fitted out over one hundred vessels for active service.

A DESPATCH from Panama, dated April 5, says: "The U. S. steamer *Rosacea* will leave here to-day for Lemon Bay, where Captain Selfridge left a party prospecting the survey. He has expressed himself in favor of this route, which will not involve more than twenty-three miles of cutting to connect the Atrato and Tuira rivers. The *Nipic* will leave Colon for Atrato immediately after the arrival of the steamer from New York, due on the morning of the 8th." Another despatch states that the Darien surveying party from the Atlantic had crossed the summit and expected to unite with the party from the Pacific about the 11th of April. The party will then return to Chipigana, after two weeks of surveying, with successful results. Captain Selfridge crossed the isthmus in thirty-six hours on an Indian trail, on a line behind the old road to the Atrato.

THE following despatch has been received at the Navy Department from the European squadron:

U. S. S. PLYMOUTH, BREST, FRANCE, March 29, 1871.
Hon. George M. Robeson, Secretary of the Navy.

SIR: I have to report that, being en route to Havre from Bordeaux, several cases of varioloid made their appearance in the ship, and, by the advice of the surgeon, I put in here to land them, and to take such steps as may be necessary to prevent the spread of the disease.

The following are those landed: Midshipman Boynton Leach, Landsman Alonzo Reed, Ordinary Seamen James Kennedy, Robert Creely, H. G. Anderson, Landsman Extra Luke Kelly, Private Marine William B. Coyle. With the exception of Reed (colored), the cases are mild.

I propose to remain here sufficiently long to ascertain that the ship is free of the disease, and shall then proceed on our way to Havre.

Should it be necessary to leave the men here in the hospital, I shall see that they are properly looked after.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

K. R. BREESE, Commander, commanding.

A CORRESPONDENT sends us an account of a boat-race which came off at Malaga, Spain, February 18, between the United States steamer *Saco* and H. B. M. vessel of war *Lee*, and which adds another to the long list of triumphs achieved by our seamen in foreign waters. The race was a three-mile one, to outer buoy and back, measured by the officers of each vessel. The challenge was given by the *Lee*, and was promptly accepted by the *Saco*. The boats were a ten-oared cutter of the *Lee* and the *Saco*'s launch, also ten-oared. The *Saco* having but a short time before arrived on the station, her men were new, and had not pulled together before; but three days' practice was enough for our blue-jackets. Each one of the *Saco*'s crew had more than one victory against an English vessel to record, and they soon came down to their "stroke." All preliminaries being arranged, the boats were started by Lieutenant John I. Brice of the *Saco*, the judges being, on the part of the *Lee*, Lieutenant Greaves, and of the *Saco*, Lieutenant-Commander Thomas Nelson. The word given, and the gun fired, off they started; the *Sacos* with the quick short stroke so well known to our American seamen, the *Lees* with their long swinging English stroke. The *Saco*'s boat took the water beautifully, the *Lee*'s not so well. The former seized the lead immediately (notwithstanding that the starboard stroke oar broke at the start, being quickly replaced by a spare one), and kept it throughout the race, coming in two minutes and forty seconds ahead of the *Lee*. The *Saco*'s boat fairly jumped through the water at each stroke, something unexpected, as the *Lee*'s boat has a reputation of doing better. Just before the start the United States frigate *Plymouth* came in from sea and anchored, both boats passing her as they pulled towards the outer buoy; and her presence of course acted as an additional incentive to our blue-jackets to do their best. The next day the *Sacos* were presented with a magnificent game-cock by the Malaganians as a trophy of victory, which is to be retained as a prize for future boat-pulling. "You may imagine the astonishment of the Englishmen," adds our correspondent, "when, with only ten minutes' respite, the same boat and crew, over the same course, again won a race of all our boats, for a good purse. (How's that for high?) After the races, music, dancing, and mutual enjoyment became the order of the day on board the *Saco*, participated in by the *elite* and beauty of Malaga, and everything passed off 'merry as a marriage bell.'"

As preparatory to early action during the next session of Congress, the Senate recently adopted a resolution directing the Secretary of the Navy to communicate such proposals as may have been received for establishing iron-ship building yards and docks to economize expenditures in the Navy, with such explanations, suggestions, and recommendations as may be advantageous to the Government and as will aid in restoring commerce. The reply of the Secretary was laid before the Senate just before the adjournment. He says the only proposals from any organized and reliable source are those of the International Steamship Company, which he transmits with an analysis of their provisions and effect, showing that by them great advantage will be gained to the Navy and country, and that we have ores in this country which will produce iron of a much greater power of resistance and tensile strength than the iron of Great Britain, at no greater expense than the difference in the cost of labor; that this superior strength will equalize the difference in cost by lessening the weight of ship and machinery; that by the further gain of facilities offered in the building docks, the cost of ships of 3,000 tons and upwards will be equalized with those built in Europe; that one ship-building yard operating successfully, with facilities concentrated and economy in each department, will demonstrate our ability to compete successfully with our commercial rivals, and will afford at once practical encouragement to the revival of ship-building throughout the country and the re-establishment of commerce; that the creation of such a building yard is a necessity to give

it vitality and permanence; that the objects proposed present themselves most favorably to the Navy Department; and that he feels authorized to speak strongly of the great value and almost absolute necessity of such facilities to the Government; that they are necessary to our respectability and security in peace and our safety in war. The Secretary says: "I will hereafter endeavor to suggest, in obedience to your resolution, some system, to be perfected under your deliberations, for the establishment of lines of ocean steamers, adapted, as far as may be, for commerce in time of peace and for naval militia in time of war." He closes his letter in these words: "I cannot assume, even under the sanction of your resolution, to point out or recommend to what extent, in what manner, or under what safeguard the Government should afford assistance to these objects. This is wholly for the representatives of the people, with whom is the power and the responsibility."

THE Austrian screw frigate *Novaro*, now lying at anchor off the Battery, arrived at New York on Monday, the 24th instant, from Annapolis, and fired the usual salute of twenty-one guns. During the day a salute of nine guns was fired from the frigate in honor of the visit of the Austrian Consul, and at four o'clock the flag of Port-Admiral Stringham was saluted, which salute was promptly returned by the United States corvette *Ticonderoga*, Commander Oscar C. Badger. From information obtained from the officers by the *Times* reporter, we learn that "the *Novaro* was originally a sailing frigate, but when the navy was reorganized she was converted into an auxiliary screw. Under canvas she has a speed of fourteen knots, while under full steam she makes twelve knots. Her engines are of 500 horse power. Her battery consists of fifteen breech-loading rifles on the spar deck, and thirty muzzle-loading guns on the gun deck. The rifles are 52-pounders, the smooth bore guns 42-pounders. The hull is 215 feet in length; 45 feet beam; draft, 20 feet, 5 inches aft; 17 feet, 9 inches forward; tonnage 2,497 tons Austrian measurement. The *Novaro* is a favorite ship in the Austrian navy, having distinguished herself in the famous battle of Lissa. The first shot fired in this engagement was by the Italians, and that shot proved fatal to the commander of this ship. He was standing on the bridge; the shot struck him fair in the breast, and a brave and noble officer was no more. The identical spot is now marked on the bridge by a brass plate, inscribed as follows: '† Errik of Klint, Lissa, 20 July, 1866.' The naval student, as well as the general visitor, will find much on board to interest and instruct him—among other things, a mechanical arrangement for firing an entire battery, or any portion of it, at a given instant, which is under the control of the commanding officer on the bridge. Thus fifteen guns which have been previously trained upon an object can, at the proper time, be fired simultaneously. It was on the *Novaro* that the Ex-Emperor Maximilian learned seamanship. He made a cruise around the world and to the Brazils in her, and one of the officers on board at the present time, Baron von Haun, was attached to his personal staff. The vessel at the time of our visit was in fine order, considering the work going on. Her crew consists of 520 men, speaking no less than seven different languages. The official language is German, and the orders are transmitted in that tongue; comparatively few of the crew speak it, therefore the junior officers repeat the order in Dalmatian, Italian, and variations of other tongues. A finer or heartier set of men are seldom seen on a foreign man-of-war in our port. The following is a list of her officers: Captain Joseph Auerhaher, von Auenstein; First Lieutenant Tichisnatch; Lieutenant-Commander, Baron von Haun, Joseph Wostag, Carl Barth; Watch Officers, Arthur Muldner, Joseph Teichl, Moritz Sachs; Surgeons Franz Gregor, Joseph Weil, Carl Marouschek; Paymaster, Carl Masena; Paymaster's clerk, Frederick Scheuerik; Midshipmen, Arch. Roter von Raunam, Adolf Gotz, Gustave Kork, Julius James Hafner, Josef C. Nemling, Herman Schruber, Euench Gyerjo von Saint-Szepe Martonos, Max Kubacheva, August Marno Rebler von Eichenhorst, Rucian Zeigler, Carl Free, Richard Tizzighelli, Richard Basso, Hugo von Balmote; Engineers, Jacob Fureho, Auban Frey, Carl Rehberger, Heinrich Binger, Avdio Celbrecht. In 1856 she made a voyage around the globe, having on board Prince Maximilian, who was then a lieutenant under instructions. She has a class of active midshipmen, fifteen in number, on board; many of whom are from the noblest families in Austria. The midshipmen are all nominated by the admirals. None of the officers have ever visited the United States before. The *Novaro* will remain in port about three weeks, when she will proceed to the eastward, and possibly will call at Boston. New York was visited by an Austrian man-of-war in 1832 and again in 1867; these times being the only ones, we believe, that a naval vessel of that country has been in our waters. Most of the officers speak English very fluently, and are a fine lot of gentlemen. It is understood that a variety of festivities will take place on board of the vessel during her stay here."

NAVY GAZETTE.

REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE.

ORDERED.

APRIL 21.—Commander Milton Haxton, to navigation duty at the Navy-yard, New York.

APRIL 22.—Surgeon E. M. Stein, to special duty at the Treasury Department, Washington, D. C.

APRIL 23.—Commander John H. Russell, to the Navy-yard, Mare Island, Cal.

Master Frederick A. Howes, to the receiving ship at New York.

Assistant Surgeon A. F. Magruder, to the Naval Hospital, Philadelphia.

Second Assistant Engineer Wm. L. Bailie, to the Navy-yard, New York.

DETACHED.

APRIL 21.—Passed Assistant Surgeon E. D. Payne, from the *Jamestown*, and granted three months leave of absence.

APRIL 22.—Master James K. Cogswell, from the Pacific Fleet, and ordered home.

APRIL 25.—Captain Thomas H. Patterson, from the Navy-yard

Washington, on the 1st of May, and appointed senior member of a board relative to inventions.

Captain H. K. Davenport, from the Bureau of Ordnance on the 1st of May, and ordered as member of a board with Captain Patterson.

Captain Reed Werden, from the Navy-yard, Mare Island, Cal., and ordered to examination for promotion.

Commander S. L. Breese, from the Naval Observatory, and ordered to command the receiving ship at New York.

Commander M. Sicard, from command of the receiving ship at New York, and placed on waiting orders.

Lieutenant-Commander B. F. Day, from the *Ticonderoga*, and placed on waiting orders.

Lieutenant-Commander Charles S. Cotton, from the *Wachusett*, and ordered to the *Ticonderoga*.

Master E. W. Remey, from the *Pawnee*, and waiting orders.

Lieutenant Thomas C. Terrell, Masters Wm. H. Jacques, H. B. Mansfield, Wm. J. Barnette, R. E. Carmody, and P. T. Cunningham, and Ensigns L. E. Bixler, N. E. Mason, and M. R. Brown, from torpedo duty on the 1st of May next, and placed on waiting orders.

Chief Engineer Wm. S. Stamm, from the Pacific Fleet, and placed on waiting orders.

APPOINTED.

APRIL 22.—Alexander F. Magruder, of Georgetown, D. C., and Wm. Henry McDonald, of Lewisburg, Pa., assistant surgeons in the Navy.

LIST OF DEATHS

In the Navy of the United States, which have been reported to the Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery for the week ending April 22, 1871:

Thomas Allen, landsman, April 10, Naval Hospital, New York.
Francis Peyton, seaman, March 24, U. S. steamer *Supply*.

CHANGES IN THE MARINE CORPS.

The following are the changes in the officers of the Marine Corps since last memoranda, viz.:

Captain James Wiley, Assistant Quartermaster U. S. Marine Corps.—On the 18th inst. granted leave of absence for thirty days from the 20th proximo.

First Lieutenant Frank D. Webster, U. S. Marine Corps.—On the 18th inst. ordered, upon being detached from U. S. steamer *Tennessee*, to Portsmouth, N. H., Barracks for duty at that post.

Died.—January 19, 1871, while attached to U. S. steamer *Alaska*, off Shanghai, China, Private Andrew J. Harrington, U. S. Marine Corps, a native of Hartford, Conn.

THE NAVAL STAFF RANK CONTROVERSY.

We have received a history of this controversy from its first inception to the present time, which we publish with some condensation necessary to adapt it to our space:

In a letter of May, 1816, addressed to the Secretary of the Navy by some of the line officers, among whom were included Hull, Jones, Bainbridge, Warrington, and Rodgers, they say:

We feel it, therefore, as a duty incumbent on us to state, that we consider the Medical Department of such great importance to the Navy of our country, that no reasonable measures ought to be omitted which could have a tendency to retain in the service the professional ability of those gentlemen who, by their experience, knowledge, zeal, and humanity, have procured the esteem and confidence of those with whom they have been associated; and we also beg leave to express our belief that no reasonable inducements would be objected to Congress to procure for those who are engaged in a perilous service, and who are constantly exposed to the diseases of all climates, the best medical aid which the country affords. To effect this, it must be obvious that the rank and pecuniary emoluments of medical officers ought to bear some proportion to what gentlemen of professional eminence would be entitled in private life; and we consider that justice requires they should, at all events, receive a compensation and rank equal to what has been enjoyed by the medical officers of the Army.

These fraternal sympathies maintained their influences for some years after the conflicts in which they were born, and probably never were obliterated between the officers who had been personally associated in those conflicts. But as we necessarily came to station squadrons on the coasts of foreign powers, their natural and most intimate association was with those of the same race, language, and usages—those of Great Britain, upon whose navy ours was clumsily modelled. With the general similarity between the two services, with an absence of years from the healthful influences of home institutions, the dying out of the war fraternization, and that tendency natural to men intrusted with authority to assume everywhere and at all times personal superiority, our line or military officers began to assume a social, inherent, and aristocratic superiority over their staff brethren of equal citizenship at home, and sometimes of the same family.

By act of Congress in 1828, the "surgeon's mate," who was appointed by favor and without any standard of qualification, gave place to the "assistant surgeon," whose qualifications were strictly scrutinized by a board of medical examiners. Under the new system, a body of well-educated and honorably ambitious young men entered the service, who soon found their condition inconsistent with their position as commissioned officers, and were little disposed to submit uncomplainingly to the pretensions of their line associates. They were, by the usages of the service, placed in the same apartments and associated with the midshipmen, whose juvenile habits were not favorable to professional study or preparation for the second examination required before being made full surgeon. This was in imitation of the British usages as regarded medical officers.

The first public protest against this state of affairs, known to us, was an article in the *Madisonian*—the Government organ at Washington during the administration of President Tyler, in 1841—called the "Social Relations of Medical Officers in the U. S. Navy." This was soon followed, in 1842, by a pamphlet, "Exposition of the unjust and injurious Relations of Medical Officers in the U. S. Navy." It may well be supposed that literary body, such as the medical corps of the Navy, with so much to stimulate their pens, would not rest idle under any conviction of wrong and injustice; and down to the late settlement of the question by act of Congress, during a period of thirty years, the energies of the press have been engaged in discussing this reform, generally on the side of the staff through the whole contest, and toward its close almost unanimously so. The oldest and most voluminous writers in the medical corps have been Surgeons Clymer, Ruschenberger, and Wood. In addition to the labors of their own corps, the medical officers of the Navy have had the aid of their professional brethren throughout the country, individually and in

county and State societies. The American Medical Association has repeatedly thrown its weight upon their side, and some of the most distinguished literary men and able newspaper writers of these many years have given their pens to the cause. It has had that endorsement of right and that assurance of success which is given by this earnest sympathy of the people, the press, and the intelligence of the country. These influences have been generally effective down to the present time. Although Secretaries of the Navy when they first enter the Department are almost exclusively in contact with the most powerful influences of the line, attention to this subject has, in almost every instance, caused them to favor the interests, first of the medical, and then of the other staff corps. In 1843 the Hon. Judge Upshur ordered a board of the senior surgeons in the Navy to prepare a plan of rank, and of rules and regulations for the government of the medical corps, and the administration of all medical charges. This board, by its action, showed its interest in the discipline of the service; for although exclusively of medical officers, it first made the provision that commanding officers of any grade should have rank and seniority over all medical officers, thus refuting the charge brought against them of seeking by their rank to interfere with military command and discipline. The report of this board, proposing a better code of regulations for the medical department of the Navy than any before or since suggested, was printed and lay unnoticed in the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery. As another step of progress, in 1844 the following general order very much improved the condition of assistant surgeons, especially as it gave them a right to a small private apartment:

NAVY DEPARTMENT, December 16, 1844.
Assistant surgeons on board all national vessels are entitled to mess and have quarters with ward-room officers, and to receive the usual courtesies of such officers. J. Y. MASON.

This little revolutionary order of Judge Mason was accepted most cheerfully by our whole Navy, for all had seen the false position of the assistant surgeon, and before its promulgation it was much the custom to invite assistant surgeons into the ward-room mess. This courtesy assistant surgeons, at great personal discomfort, sometimes declined, not willing to be in a position as guests on sufferance, which as commissioned officers they felt to be their right. Upon one occasion, in 1829, Commodore Jesse Duncan Elliott, of Lake Erie fame, anticipated Judge Upshur's order fifteen years, by ordering the assistant surgeon into the ward-room. But a progressive innovation like this, so cheerfully, to its credit, accepted by our own Navy, was the cause of great commotion in that of Great Britain and in the medical profession of England. A like advance was demanded there; the Admiralty opposed it, the Ministry followed the Admiralty, until it found that such was the temper of Parliament, it must either follow our example or resign on the power of a large majority vote against its course. It avoided the necessity by ordering, for their own service, the improvement made in ours—being the first instance in which our Navy set an example to that of Great Britain, instead of being its imitator.

In 1846 the Hon. George Bancroft, being Secretary of the Navy, took a warm interest in the subject of rank for medical officers, as did also the U. S. Senate, under the influence of the Hon. John Fairfield of Maine. But a difference of opinion existed as to whether the regulation of this rank was an executive or legislative right. Mr. Bancroft claimed it as belonging to the executive, in which view many members of the national legislature sustained him. He determined to anticipate legislative action by a general order, and disintering the report of the board of 1843, he based his order upon its propositions with the following modifications: He struck out all rank proposed for the Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, saying that he "wanted no military rank in the Department. All who came into it were for the time civilians, and surrendered their military position." He added two years to the time which the board proposed before medical officers reached their highest rank (next to the highest in the Navy), and, unfortunately, was persuaded to interpolate the "executive" officer as a participant in the reserved rights of the commander—an error of principle which has been fruitful of evil to the service, really making a double and divided command. This order of the Navy Department met with violent opposition from the line of the Navy; some took upon themselves to disregard the superior authority of the Department, upon the pretext that it had no legislative sanction. An official protest was made against it by a large body of line officers, but which was conclusively answered by the Hon. Walter Jones, of Washington City, in an argument consistent with his reputation as one of the first and most learned legal minds of his time. This settled, at that time, the question of executive prerogative, and in 1854 the regulation, having been in force as such for eight years, was enacted into law by Congress. With the exception of certain regulations by the Hon. J. C. Dobbin and the Hon. Gideon Welles, defining and limiting the privileges of the "executive" officer, no change was made in the position of staff officers until 1863, when four new and higher grades having been established for the line of the Navy—leaving the staff officers the fifth instead of the second grade—Mr. Welles, following the example of Mr. Bancroft, sustained by the argument of Walter Jones, and the official opinion of Attorney-General Bates, issued a general order raising the staff corps (many officers of which had distinguished themselves in the Rebellion) one grade. This remained the rule of the service for six years, when, upon the advent of the present administration, the Hon. Mr. Bore, on the first of April, 1869, issued the celebrated order No. 126, annulling the regulation of Mr. Welles.

Congress, however, failed to undo this order for nearly two years, and during all this time the staff corps remained in a most humiliating position, until they were restored to their former grade, with added improvements, by the bill which passed the third session of the Forty-second Congress, on the last night of its session, March 3, 1871, as the result of this thirty year naval intestine war.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A DESERTER ANSWERED.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: The letter written from Taos, New Mexico, by a deserter from Fort Garland, would not be deserving of attention had it not been given to the public through the columns of the New York *Herald*, and thus reached many who may know nothing of the actual state of affairs on the frontier, and be wrongly influenced by it.

Having served for a year at the post mentioned, and that during a part of the last three years, I pronounce his statement an unmitigated falsehood. No man has been forced to "take his pay in trade," unless he had run in debt and it took all his pay to square the account. Ferd. Myer & Co., the traders at Fort Garland, are honest, straightforward business men, as almost any one who has ever been at the post can testify. That they have sometimes paid the troops at the post is true, but it was after the rolls had been properly made up by a paymaster; and the men were always paid the full amounts in Government funds, and not "in dribelets from the traders' store." The pay district of New Mexico comprises all the posts from Fort Quitman, Texas, to Fort Garland in Colorado, and, so far from having nothing to do for three-fourths of the time, the paymasters of the district are more than that proportion of it on the road, and the bi-monthly payment at all the posts necessitates thousands of miles of travel in ambulances and Army wagons, and much of it through a country infested by hostile Indians, over routes which those who are so ready to find fault with officers would hesitate to travel at any time, with or without an escort.

Any man who will desert will not hesitate to tell any falsehood he may think will be believed to excuse his crime, and this man is no exception to the rule.

NYEMOR.

April 14, 1871.

A QUESTION IN HOROLOGY.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: I solved the tactical problem I sent to you by making all the combinations possible, beginning with 1, and then 2, and so on to 7. I then prepared thirty-five small pieces of paper, and wrote on each one of the combinations or ranks, which I then arranged in marching order, as your correspondents who send you its solution have done.

Will your correspondents while away a leisure moment in giving you the information asked for in this question?

A clock has an hour hand, minute hand, and second hand revolving on the same centre. They are all together at meridian. At what instant of time after is the hour hand between the others, and equidistant from each; at what instant is the minute hand between the others and equidistant from each; and at what instant is the second hand between the others and equidistant from each?

M. O. L. L. U. S.

A HINT FOR MR. BOUTWELL.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: The public debt of Great Britain is about one-third greater than that of the United States. Less than two hundred years ago, that is, about one hundred years before the United States became a nation, it amounted to about five millions sterling, which was then thought to be a sum of alarming magnitude. How William III. would stare if he could open his eyes and behold the magnitude and prosperity of the nation he was called to save, and what would he think when told that this magnificent nation was burdened with a debt 150 times as great as that with which it was blessed in his day, and that the whole cause of this increase was war?

His reflections upon the subject would probably run somewhat in this way:

"If a nation can be so prosperous with such a heavy debt, what might it not have been with no debt at all; that is, if it had no war? Ergo, war is a bad thing for the prosperity of a nation. But the wars having taken place and the consequent debt having been contracted, what is the best method of treating it so as to interfere as little as possible with the prosperity of the nation?"

He would probably reflect that what in one age was regarded as an enormous debt would in a subsequent one be regarded as altogether insignificant. The interest on our debt must of course be paid as it falls due, but the principal (the debt itself) need not be paid until the end of a long term of years. Is it wise to attempt to pay it before it is due? Let us see how it would be with an individual in private business. His business is an extensive one and requires a large capital. He borrows \$100,000 payable in twenty years or sooner at his option, he in the mean time paying 6 per cent. interest, or \$6,000 yearly. The successful operation of his business requires his whole capital, and from his profits he easily pays the yearly interest. But year by year his business increases and extends; his profits increase, but at the same time he requires more capital. Now under these circumstances, with a constantly increasing and prosperous business, would it be wise to check the onward progress of his trade by deflating a part of his capital to pay off a part of his original debt merely because it would diminish the yearly interest he is paying? Or would it be better for him to tax his business only sufficient to pay the yearly interest, and employ all the rest of his profits as capital in extending his business, with the certainty at the end of twenty years of doubling, perhaps quadrupling his original capital?

Any business man can answer this question for himself, but it does not require one to be a practical business man to answer the following questions in the affirmative: Does the business of this country (the United States) require all the capital it can get hold of and more? Does the attempt to pay off the national debt now lessen the capital required in business? Is it better to make 12 per cent. than to save 6? Does capital in some parts of the country command 12, 15, 20, and

even 30 per cent.? Is this country susceptible of an almost indefinite extension of business and population? Has the population of the country in the last eighty years nearly doubled itself every twenty years? If a tax of \$100 per head would pay off the national debt now, would not one of \$50 per head pay off twenty years hence? Does not the existence of a large national debt tend to secure the stability of our Government, its life being insured for \$3,000,000,000, and all the policy-holders being interested in having the Government live as long as possible?

THE INCOME TAX.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: An association of merchants and others in Boston has been formed for the purpose of testing the constitutionality of the income tax."

The above quotation has led me to bring before the officers of the Army and all salaried employees of the Government, through the kindness of your journal, a remarkable and plain injustice concerning said income tax. Now I believe the law expressly says a tax shall be levied upon all income above and beyond a certain amount; also an allowance made for losses in business or otherwise; in other words, upon the actual stated excess of income enjoyed at the end of the year. In contradistinction to this the United States paymasters deduct five per cent. monthly from every officer and Government employee, making no allowance for losses, which they often have, in common with men of other callings. Neither do they get a credit for the sum set apart as exempted from taxation; nor have they the use of the full amount of income, for it takes no accountant to see that there is considerable difference between deducting five per cent. annually of a certain sum and deducting the same monthly. Now, laying aside all question as to constitutionality, it is decidedly an illegal method of taxation, and denies the rights to officers that are extended to citizens; and I believe that much if not all that has been deducted since the origin of the law can lawfully be claimed, and should legally and justly be reimbursed to them. A sum for actual house rent was also exempted. Now when and where has any officer, especially those upon the retired list, ever had the benefit of such? Never! And 'tis plain that, under the method of deducting at the paymaster's desk the monthly five per cent., officers have had illegal taxation levied upon them; and a test should and could be made to obtain reimbursement of what is justly and lawfully theirs.

CITIZEN.

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE ARMY.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: To use a homely if not vulgar simile, "Beer must be agitated and worked before it becomes a settled, palatable drink." So may it be with the efficiency of the Army: the subject must be agitated (and it is working) and attention drawn to the Army in connection with its elevation to a better standard before the "scum"—pardon the word—will work to the surface, and the whole become settled to a purer, better condition.

With this preface, please allow a subscriber to deliver himself of a few plain observations and suggestions, which, if regarded, viewed from his standpoint, would raise the Army to higher standard.

Observation 1st. He has observed that the recruiting service appears defective in having an eye more to quantity than quality; that too many of the recruits are of the very worst kind (without dispraise to good men), and though physically they may seem to answer the demand, yet morally and mentally they are too frequently below mediocre. They are unfit for and unequal to the performance of the responsible and honorable duties of a soldier. It looks as though the leading requirement of a recruiting station is to "turn out" the greatest possible number of recruits without reference to the habit or moral stamina of the material. It is an undoubted and lamentable fact that many of the men who enlist in the Army are those who are not sufficiently trustworthy and temperate in their habits to obtain honorable employment in civil life. What is the consequence? They carry their dissolute characters into companies, and the good men become discouraged and disgusted to find themselves obliged to be considered no better than equals with this class, with whom they would not associate out of the Army. How often an officer may be heard to say, "Such a man has deserted; I would have thought any man in the company would sooner desert than he." What was the cause? He had been compelled to affiliate with un congenial and low companions, and his disgust became unendurable. The writer does not feel himself competent to command an army of unlimited numbers, but lays claim to the possession of a degree of that sense commonly credited to the old Army horse, and he hopes there is no harm in modestly suggesting what appears to be a remedy for the existing state of things.

Suggestion 1st. Let the pay of the Army remain the same, and be permanently fixed. Let no recruit be enlisted who cannot write his name and read the English language fairly. Let no man be enlisted who carries in his face the unmistakable evidence of a dissipated character. An experienced surgeon can decide this matter. Where practicable let a recruit be required to furnish a written testimonial of his good character. Let it be advertised and understood that the Army is a good place for good men, and not a good place for bad men, and that those who cannot come up to the standard and requirements will not be received; and this would induce a better class of young men to apply to enter the Army. Let there always be held out inducements for advancement for those whose ambition leads them in the direction of a soldier's life. Let no soldier re-enlist who has lost his discharge—*prima facie* evidence of a careless or bad soldier—unless he brings an affidavit sworn and subscribed to before proper legal authority. Let the company mess be well provided, so that a hungry man may know that soon as "roast beef" sounds he can sit down to a good table, as properly and well equipped and furnished as that of any respectable boarding-house outside

the Army. The company savings will do this if the mess is judiciously and economically managed. Where game is abundant, a company cannot only make a large saving, but live very well. Let the officers encourage the patronage of the post library. Attach to the company mess-room a reading-room with facilities for letter-writing, with abundance of newspapers. The excellent Post Library Association will afford the greatest assistance in this project. Establish a rendezvous for the instruction theoretically and practically of non-commissioned officers who shall pass an examination before a board of officers before being warranted.

Observation 2d. It is observed that there exists to some extent sort of apathy among the commissioned officers with reference to the elevation of the Army. Not but that every officer would be glad to have the condition of the Army improved, but it has the appearance that each looks vaguely for some unknown or undiscovered theory or power to carry itself into operation, which has no reference to or expects no assistance from the individual officer himself. Shall it be supposed that there are officers in the Army who do not take much interest in their profession beyond drawing their monthly stipend with alacrity? Yet it would sometimes seem as if there were officers who felt their duties to be irksome and distasteful. An officer who had seen considerable staff service and given eminent satisfaction, upon being brought to the routine and somewhat monotonous duty of a company, was heard to say, "The Army would be a good place if it were not for the soldiers." Lieutenant C—— ought to be on staff duty.

Suggestion 2d. Let not an officer of the old, old Army be unmucrocal as to smile disdainfully at the following suggestions: Let there be a cavalry and infantry as well as an artillery school, where the science of war, military law, tactics, etc., shall be studied and put into practice as far as is possible, and let every line officer have the advantage of this school for one year. Let those who are "too old to learn" be retired. In brief, let there be a practical system of education and organization, carefully imbibed and impressed with the importance of such education, so that the next war may find our Regular Army ready and fully qualified to become the nucleus of a grand, well-disciplined, and efficient army. Let each individual officer bear in mind that if he "acts well his part" the desired object of promoting the efficiency and raising the standard of the Army will be nearer attainment.

The writer hopes that in thus briefly alluding to what interests so many he does not appear over-wise or self-sufficient, nor yet conceited in an attempt at originality, because he has ventured to record what is so well known to nearly all.

YENNOB.
FORT FRED STEELE, WYOMING TER., April 13, 1871.

THE APPOINTEES FROM THE ARMY.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: The subject of giving officers appointed "from the Army" full credit for all the time they have served continuously, as enlisted men and officers, so that they may have the advantage of the per centum and of the retired list, counting from their first entrance into the Army, has never yet, it is believed, been called to the attention of either Congress or the War Department. The reasons are the well-known diffidence of the men interested, and their backwardness in asking anything for themselves as a class.

The fairness and justness of their claim to the consideration of Congress cannot be disputed for a moment. Of the three classes of appointees to be found among officers of the Army, those appointed "from the Army" have not the same advantages and are not on an equal footing with those appointed from the Military Academy or from civil life. One becomes an officer at once at twenty-four or twenty-five years of age, and, as the law now exists, after serving thirty years can be retired at fifty-four or fifty-five years of age; while, on the other hand, the man who enlists at twenty-four or twenty-five years, then serves ten or fifteen years, as the case may be, and receives an appointment as a second lieutenant, must wait until he is sixty-five or seventy years of age before he can avail himself of the benefits of the retired list, although his ten or fifteen years' service may have been, and in nine cases out of ten has been, far harder than if he had been commissioned. Again, it would not be more than common justice to allow this class of officers the per centum allowed by law for every five years consecutive service from the date of their first entrance into the service in any capacity.

No person who is acquainted with the Army at all will deny that the class of men I speak of have earned by hard and faithful service every dollar of what is asked; and the amount per annum would be very small to the Government, but considerable to the officers individually who are interested.

Men who have served continuously in the Regular Army, then in the Volunteer Army, and who have been appointed officers in the Regular Army at the close of the war, should be included in the benefits of any enactment to the above effect.

If this subject was fairly brought before Congress, they would undoubtedly see the justness of the claim of a class of men who have earned a right to the most favorable consideration towards placing them on an equal footing with their brother officers.

JUSTICE.

April 2, 1871.

A NEW nautical novel, by Edward Greely, entitled "Blue Jackets; or, Adventures of J. Thompson, A. B., among the Heathen Chinee," has been lately published by Messrs. J. E. Tilton & Co., Boston. The author, having had a large experience in the English naval service, has qualified himself in the best possible manner to write with understanding of the abuses practised in that service, more particularly of the use of the lash, which he denounces in the most vivid language. As a novel, the interest in the characters is well sustained throughout, and the scenes and incidents are depicted in graphic language.

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TRANSFER.—A CAPTAIN OF CAVALRY (colored regiment), well up on the list, wishes to transfer into Infantry. Address M. C. S., care ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

A CAPTAIN OF INFANTRY, of appointment of July 28, 1866, would like to transfer with a Captain of Cavalry. Liberal inducements offered. Address CAPTAIN, at this office.

TRANSFER.—A FIRST LIEUTENANT OF INFANTRY (white), serving at a pleasant post in the South, will transfer with any First Lieutenant of Infantry, serving upon the Plains or Pacific coast. Would transfer into a colored regiment above fourth file. Address KENO, ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL office.

TRANSFER.—AN INFANTRY CAPTAIN in one of the oldest and best white regiments, serving at a most agreeable post in the East, is desirous of negotiating a transfer with a Captain of Cavalry (white), of date July, 1866. Liberal inducements offered. Address INFANTRY, care of ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

SOCIETY OF THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PHILADELPHIA, April, 1871.

To the members of the Society of the Army of the Potomac.

THE THIRD REGULAR MEETING OF THE SOCIETY will be held in Boston, on the 12th day of May next, convening at 11 A. M. The address will be delivered by Brevet Major-General L. P. Fairchild, Governor of Wisconsin, and the poem by Bret Harte; and in the evening there will be the usual banquet. Officers, and enlisted men, who have served with honor in the Army of the Potomac, are, by the constitution of the Society entitled to membership, on signing the constitution, and paying three dollars (entrance). Suitable arrangements for the meeting are being made by the executive committee, and any information desired, can be obtained by addressing Colonel W. C. Church, Corresponding Secretary, at New York, or Colonel Theodore Lyman, and Major J. H. Sleeper, Chairman, and Secretary of the Executive Committee, Boston.

It is earnestly hoped, that all comrades of the Army of the Potomac, who can, will be present, and a cordial invitation is extended to members of kindred societies.

Major-General G. G. MEADE, President.

NEW LOAN OF UNITED STATES.

THREE subscriptions to the New Five Per Cent. Stock of the United States now amount to \$56,000,000. They are confidently expected to reach \$200,000,000 by the time the New Bonds are ready for delivery in May. The proposals of the Secretary of the Treasury will then be changed to the following programme :

First: Bonds to the amount of three hundred millions of dollars, payable in coin, at the pleasure of the United States, after ten years from the date of their issue, and bearing interest, payable quarterly in coin, at the rate of five per cent. per annum.

Second: Bonds to the amount of three hundred millions of dollars, payable in coin, at the pleasure of the United States, after fifteen years from the date of their issue, and bearing interest, payable quarterly in coin, at the rate of four and a half per cent. per annum.

Third: Bonds to the amount of seven hundred millions of dollars, payable in coin, at the pleasure of the United States, after thirty years from the date of their issue, and bearing interest, payable quarterly in coin, at the rate of four per cent. per annum.

Subscriptions to the loan will have preference, after the above-mentioned two hundred millions are taken up, in the following order, namely :

First: Subscriptions for equal amounts of each class of bonds.

Second: Subscriptions for equal amounts of bonds bearing interest at the rate of four and a half per cent. and of bonds bearing interest at the rate of five per cent.

Third: Subscriptions for any five per cent. bonds that may not be subscribed for in the preceding classes.

Subscriptions to the remainder of the \$200,000,000 of five per cents, which are unconditional, are now going on, and the bonds will soon be issued to the subscribers, who can receive a scrip certificate in advance, if they desire to pay their gold or exchange their U. S. 5-20 at once, in the Register or Coupon form. Registered bonds will be issued of the denominations of \$50, \$100, \$500, \$1,000, \$5,000, and \$10,000; and coupon bonds of each denomination except the last two. The interest will be payable in the United States, at the office of the Treasurer, any Assistant Treasurer, or Designated Depositary of the Government, quarterly, on the first days of February, May, August, and November in each year.

The bonds of the several classes aforesaid, and the interest thereon, are exempt from the payment of all taxes or dues of the United States, as well as from taxation in any form by or under State municipal or local authority.

After maturity, the bonds last issued will be first redeemed by classes and numbers, as may be designated by the Secretary of the Treasury.

OFFICE OF ACTING COMMISSIONER OF SUBSISTENCE,
FORT HAMILTON, N. Y. H., April 27, 1871.
SEALED PROPOSALS IN DUPLICATE WILL BE
received at this office, until 10 A. M. May 30, 1871, for furnishing the Fresh Beef required by the Subsistence Department, U. S. Army, at this station, during six months commencing July 1, 1871. Information as to conditions, quality of Beef, payments, etc., can be obtained by application to R. M. HALL, First Lieutenant and Quartermaster First Artillery, Brevet Colonel U. S. A., Acting Commissary of Subsistence.

A CAPTAIN IN ONE OF THE BEST OLD WHITE Infantry regiments, located at a pleasant and healthy post on the frontier, wishes to transfer into the Cavalry, white or colored troops. Address EL CAPITAIN, care of ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

U. S. ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

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Subscribers who purpose binding their volumes at the end of the year should be careful to preserve their files of the paper, as we no longer stereotype it, and are not able, therefore, to supply all of the back numbers of this volume.

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THE IDEA OF OUR CENTURY.

THAT France has had full warning of the result which has attended her efforts to prevent the predestined union of Germany, is evident to all who are familiar with European affairs. The battle of Sadowa, which revealed the strength of Germany, made the weakness of France apparent at the same time to those few Frenchmen who were capable of comprehending the full significance of the event, and who were not blinded by national prejudice and vanity. With such freedom as French liberty would allow, the real position of France and her true policy were discussed by them, but without result.

Not that these discussions were passed by without notice. We remember distinctly the sensation created in Paris in 1867 by the appearance of a pamphlet entitled "Napoléon III. et l'Europe en 1867." Bold and vigorous in style, it pointed out without reserve the mistake France would make if she should attempt to interfere with the legitimate aspirations of her neighbors. The programme for France, declared this prophetic writer, was peace; a peace, he added, founded upon the following principles :

1. A sincere, full, and sympathetic acceptance of the facts accomplished or on the road to accomplishment in Germany, pertaining to its internal organization.

2. The conscientious execution of the convention of September 15, or the formation of a guarantee which should be its equivalent.

3. The progressive development of the liberal ideas contained in the letter of January 19, 1867.

Germany, he contended, was an accomplished fact. The Confederation of the North, the customs-treaties, the military conventions between the states of Southern Germany, the tendencies of the deliberative assemblies, the intentions of the cabinet of Berlin, and the manifest aspirations of the immense majority of the German people, must oblige every impartial mind to accept this conclusion. The Main, which was indeed already spanned by the unity of commercial interests and by the union of military command, had ceased to be more than an imaginary frontier. From the promontories of Schleswig to the mountains of the Tyrol, and perhaps beyond; from the bridge of Kehl to the confines of the grand duchy of Posen, there existed a people which were united in a nationality of interests, of forces, and of a common language. The unity existed in all that is most substantial and positive. Where elsewhere was to be seen the name without the fact, here was seen the fact without the name. "The slightest aggression," he added, "from without would suffice to create one of those currents which baffle all calculations and sweep away every barrier

which custom, ability, strength, or time may raise against the invincible power of events destined to accomplish themselves. Yes!" he exclaims, "Germany is an accomplished fact, and the least breath may suffice to raise the wave which shall place upon the head of the chief of the house of Hohenzollern the sovereign crown of Germany."

This it is now easy for the most incorrigible Frenchman to see but, spoken as they were four years ago, these words have, for France at least, all the solemn sound of prophecy—which is never understood until it has fulfilled itself. "We can conceive," this writer goes on to say, "that superficial or systematically hostile eyes see in the battle of Sadowa the single cause of German unity, but for us who know the past of the Germanic nation, the tendencies of its genius, the spirit of its schools, the dreams of its youth, the songs of its poets, the inspirations of its writers, and finally even the daily and practical exigencies of its material interests; for those who understand all this assembly of facts and of recollections, the battle of Sadowa was but the sanguinary birth of a people, new-born, if you will, but conceived and formed in the mysterious womb of the past, and finally brought forth into the broad light of history at the fatidical hour of its accomplished formation. It is certain—or at least probable—that this formation might have been retarded; but it is also certain that it could not have been prevented. For, if on one side facts engender events, on the other events predispose facts, and often untimely interference which endeavors to postpone what ought to be effected only serves to change into an explosion or into catastrophe that which could, in the natural course of events, unfold and accomplish itself, if not without shocks, at least without one of those upheavals which shake European order to its base and hold in suspense during hours of unutterable anxiety the destinies of nations and the fate of crowns."

"This Germany in process of formation, of unification upon our very frontiers, is she a menace or a danger to us?" he asks. "Does there exist a duty, and consequently a right, which obliges or authorizes us to intermeddle in this solemn drama of the formation of a great people upon our borders? Ought France to prevent the unification of Germany? Can France prevent the unification of Germany?" To this double question he replies without hesitation: "No; France ought not to do it. France cannot do it!" He hastens to add, being a Frenchman and writing for Frenchmen: "Not by reason of any physical and material inability, but because she ought not to do it. She cannot, because she could not be false to her democratic and liberal mission. She ought not and she cannot, finally, because she could not make what is illogical and unjust the pivot of her policy."

But this was evidently intended for argument rather than assertion. How well the writer understood the real impossibility of checking by mere physical force the great movement of a people toward their destiny is shown further on, where he says: "The philosophy of history demonstrates most completely that certain ideas prevail at certain epochs with a kind of inevitable fatality. One of the ideas which has most inspired and still inspires our century is the idea of association. In the commercial sphere it has created societies of credit, substituting collective strength for individual strength. In the sphere of economy it has created co-operative societies resting upon the principle of mutuality; in the more extended circle of international relations this tendency to association has given birth to treaties of commerce, which, instead of dividing two countries by the narrow struggle of opposing interests, unites them in the productive principle of a free and mutual commerce. In short this magic inspiration which urges to unity finds its highest expression in political life so called. There it tends to eliminate division into small states, and evokes—as one of the grand realities which a future, impossible to realize to-day, is destined to see accomplished—the great agglomerations by reason of their nationality, that is to say, by reason of a certain homogeneity resulting at the same time from the origin of language, from history, from religious ties, and finally from manifest and practical interest."

A recognition of this great principle would have prevented the ill-starred rebellion which kept us at

war for four years; it would have saved France from her bitter experience of defeat and humiliation. Let these examples deter those who would array themselves against the tendency of our modern era, which is destined to exhibit itself on a yet grander scale. The steam engine, the telegraph, the printing press have put an end to historic precedents, and opened up an era in which freedom of intercourse and the growth in common ideas and aspiration is destined to unite men in nationalities whose imperial proportions shall make the mightiest empires of antiquity seem insignificant by comparison.

THE address from the throne with which the Emperor WILLIAM opened the first German Reichstag fitly closes our record of that brief but glorious struggle which has secured to the German people what they have so long aspired to; unity, with its requisite organic forms, security of frontiers, and that independence in national development which is their legitimate right. The Emperor may well congratulate his people on the great step they have taken towards the establishment of this union, which has been more essential to them even than the liberty to which he is so little likely to assist them. But much as his people have accomplished within the last year, much still remains for them to do. They have shown how effectually they could unite in war against a common foe; it is for them now to show how they can remain harmoniously united for the business of peace. Petty jealousies, the inheritance of past division, remain to be settled, and numerous political questions will be coming up at once for decision. Some of these are referred to in the address we publish; the question of distributing among the various German States the indemnity wrung from France by their common efforts, for one. Others will arise, one of the most perplexing of which is likely to be the question of a German fleet. Prussia is determined with good reason to have a strong navy. But how is that navy to be paid for? Shall Bavaria, Würtemberg, Baden, and Saxony be mulcted in yearly sums to maintain fleets and ships they can have small interest in?

The difficulties which will arise about the reorganization on a single and imperial footing of the German armies will be more easily tided over, and will be as nothing to the jealousies to be occasioned by the reorganization of the diplomatic service, about the Customs, and the administration of justice, as well as about the fleet. The Prussian military system adopted by Baden, Bavaria, and Würtemberg, according to treaty, has worked so wonderfully well that very little difficulty will be experienced in establishing a universal and similar organization over the Empire. In fact few alterations from the present system will be needed. Not long after the ratification of the treaty of Prague, which among other things settled that the North German Confederation should not exercise sway to the south of the Main, and consequently excluded Würtemberg, Bavaria, and Baden, military conventions with those States were secretly entered into by Prussia. These conventions or treaties settled that in case of invasion the armies of Bavaria, Würtemberg, and Baden should be placed under the leadership of Prussian officers, and also arranged for the interchange of officers of lower grades from one army into another. Thus Bavarian officers were appointed to Prussian regiments, and Prussian officers were sent to serve with and drill Bavarian troops. And the same with Baden and Würtemberg.

These conventions were made public by BISMARCK, at the time that France threatened Prussia about the Luxembourg affair, as a check on France; and probably this opportune disclosure did more toward preventing a rupture between Prussia and France than the intervention of neutrals. Of course these secret treaties, or, as BISMARCK chose to call them, military conventions, were in spirit though not in letter a breach of the treaty of Prague, and they caused much dissatisfaction in France. But her army was not fully supplied with Chassepots, and peace was maintained.

At the breaking out of the present war, the North German Confederation had cadres for thirteen army corps; the States south of the Main increased the number to sixteen, one corps coming from Würtemberg, and two from Bavaria. It is not only the actual increase of men, and such men as the Bavarians

have proved themselves in this campaign, that so materially assisted Prussia, but the self-same organization, the same drill, and the same system in the camp of its allies. This system, obtained as we have seen by secret convention, allows of troops from Bavaria and Prussia, or Prussia and Baden, etc., to work together in the field under one commanding officer, without dislocation or disarrangement of any kind. This, with the Prussian system of raising each corps, division, brigade and regiment from some particular province or subdivision of the country, will greatly assist future VON ROONS or MOLTKEs—or indeed the present ones—in their labors.

AMONG the Americans who sacrificed their lives in the cause of France, was LUCIEN MOREAU, whose name will be recognized by hundreds who had been his comrades in filibustering expeditions, and in the rebel service. A descendant of MOREAU, a marshal of the Empire, he was born in Louisiana about 1824, his family, like the MURATS and BONAPARTES, having come to this country after the downfall of the first NAPOLEON. He was essentially an adventurer, allying himself to every revolutionary cause. In 1851, he was a member of the hapless expedition of LOPEZ; escaping the fate of his leader, he was next with WALKER in his Nicaraguan raid. During our own war, he first enlisted as a private in the Louisiana Tigers, with whom he fought at Bull Run. Soon after he became attached to STONEWALL JACKSON's command as a scout, appearing next as a cavalryman under J. E. B. STEWART. A perfect horseman, guiding his animal by the heel, and carrying his sabre in one hand and his pistol in the other, his fearless temperament and superb practice gave him a leading position in the brigade. During the recent European war, MOREAU was an officer of *franc-tireurs*. How or in what fight he met death we are not informed. In February, 1870, he was in this city corresponding with CLUSERET and others. The following May, in a letter from Paris to an American friend regarding a newly invented hand grenade, he wrote: "We are getting the mine laid that will and must end the NAPOLEON dynasty."

COLONEL and Brevet Brigadier-General THOMAS H. RUGER, U. S. Army, has been assigned to duty as Superintendent of the Military Academy, in place of Colonel and Brevet Brigadier-General THOMAS G. PITCHER, U. S. Army. It has been evident to us for some time that a change would be made in the administration of the Academy, and we are satisfied not only that a change was expedient, but that the Secretary of War has shown good judgment in the choice he has made of a successor to General PITCHER. The new superintendent is one of those graduates of the Military Academy who have had the advantage of a civil experience as well as of military training. He entered the Corps of Engineers in 1854 from the Military Academy, where he stood third in his class. Resigning shortly after to engage in the practice of the law, he returned to the military service as the colonel of a Wisconsin regiment, which enlisted at the outbreak of the war, being afterward appointed a brigadier-general, and finally a major-general of volunteers. After a most creditable career in the Army of the Potomac, General RUGER was transferred to the West after the battle of Chickamauga, serving under SHERMAN and THOMAS in the march to Atlanta, and at Nashville. Under the reorganization of the Army at the close of the war he was appointed colonel of the Thirty-third Infantry, July 28, 1866, and brevet brigadier-general U. S. Army, March 2, 1867. He is a native of New York, but has resided since his youth in Wisconsin. He is still young, thirty-eight years of age, and is a man of clear intelligence, firm will, and has much of that saving common sense which is needed in his new position, where we wish him all success.

A MOVEMENT for the establishment of an Army and Navy club in New York has been undertaken, which promises success. Two meetings of gentlemen interested have been held thus far, and a third is to be held at Delmonico's on Friday evening next, when a constitution will be adopted by those who have entered the preliminary organization already effected on the basis of an initiation fee of fifty dol-

lars for resident members, and thirty dollars annual dues. It is intended to lease a house for the club as soon as one hundred members are obtained. Some seventy gentlemen have already presented their names for membership, and it is expected that the list will speedily be completed. Among those thus far enlisted in the enterprise are Generals BURNSIDE, WRIGHT, CULLUM, NEWTON, W. F. SMITH, GRAHAM, SHAHER, MCKEEVER, DAVIES, SHARPE, VAN ALLEN and ASPINWALL, Admiral GODON, Commodore LE ROY, Paymaster BARRY, Colonels CRISPIN, MORGAN, CHURCH, and others whose names we do not at this moment recall. All of these gentlemen are actively interested in the undertaking, and the names thus far obtained have been mainly those within the immediate circle of their acquaintance. The committee on membership and organization consists of General H. G. WRIGHT, U. S. Army, Admiral GODON, U. S. Navy, and Commodore W. E. LE ROY, U. S. Navy; Generals VAN ALLEN and LLOYD ASPINWALL, and Colonel W. C. CHURCH. Gentlemen who may desire to enter the club should make application either to some member of this committee, or to some one of the gentlemen mentioned above as members. It is certainly desirable that such a club should be established in New York, and it is the growing necessity for it which has finally resulted in this movement, to which we wish all success.

IT is in accordance with the grim irony of events, that the forts which M. THIERS built around Paris should successfully bar his own progress to the Tuilleries, though they failed in the purpose for which they were intended, and did not keep the Prussians out of the city. They proved too strong for the Prussian guns, it is true, and we can hardly blame M. THIERS if he has not been more successful than VON MOLTKE in reducing them. There seems but little prospect of his bringing the Communists to terms except by starvation, and his operations seem accordingly to be directed to the investment of the city. New corps have been formed, he announces, at Cherbourg, Cambrai, and Auxerre, "composed of the heroes of Gravelotte" and commanded by Generals DOUAI and CLINCHANT. These corps are formed of the troops returning from Germany, some of whom have been landed at Cherbourg. They are doubtless intended to take part in the siege of Paris. But who will control the army that MACMAHON is forming out of the shattered fragments of the Empire? Is THIERS sure of his authority in the face of Bonapartist plots, and the intrigues which make each Frenchman distrustful of every other?

As for the Communists, it is evident that they cannot long maintain themselves in authority with nothing within their control but a city whose existence depends upon its unrestricted intercourse with the outside world; producing as it does nothing itself but the mushrooms in its deserted quarries. It is hard to say what the purposes of the Communists are, because it is impossible to tell what particular phase of communism is or is likely to be in the ascendant in Paris. Their only concern now seems to be to get hold of all the money they can by hook or by crook in order to pay their troops, and to maintain themselves in control, however much they may have to sacrifice their own theories of human rights in order to do it.

THE *Pall Mall Gazette* observes: "There is a general impression that corporal punishment has been totally abolished in the Army; this, however, appears to be not the case as regards military prisoners at Milbank, who, according to the report on the discipline and management of the military prisons by the inspector-general, lately printed, are liable to any number of lashes up to thirty-six for the following offences: Mutiny, or open incitement to mutiny, in a prison; personal violence to any officer or servant of the prison, or to a fellow prisoner, or threats of such violence; grossly offensive or abusive language to any officer or servant of the prison; wilfully or wantonly breaking the prison windows, or otherwise destroying prison property when under punishment in a dark, refractory, or ordinary cell; wilfully making a disturbance tending to interrupt the order and discipline of the prison, and any other act of gross misconduct or insubordination requiring to be suppressed by extraordinary means. Before the corporal punishment is inflicted, there is to be an inquiry upon oath before the visiting director, and in the presence of the prisoner, into the circumstances of the case."

VOLUNTEER CAVALRY.—NO. XV.

THE LESSONS OF THE DECADE.

BY A VOLUNTEER CAVALRYMAN.

Entered according to act of Congress, in the year 1871, by W. C. & F. P. Church, in the office of the Librarian of Congress at Washington.

ADVANCED PARTIES—ORDERS OF MARCH.

SCOUTS should travel several miles ahead of their commands, and in some cases a full day's march. But inside of their line of march a second species of guard is necessary, styled advanced parties, in front of the advanced guard proper. The essentials of a good advance are celerity of transmitting intelligence and the covering of as long a stretch of ground ahead as may be. As in the case of scouts, so with the advance. Its duties are special and require special training to insure perfection. It is thus better on every account to have a permanent detail for the duty, taken equally from the regiments of a brigade, instead of the constant rotation now practised.

But brigades should take their turns at the duty by all means. They are very frequently detached from the corps, and should always be able to act offensively, independent of the rest of the corps. Every regiment should have its share in the formation of the advance, and its operations should resemble those of a moving picket guard, only far more sweeping and extended in reach.

The advance of a corps need not be more numerous than that of a brigade. Its essentials are the same. In front of everything an officer, or brevet on probation, with a sergeant and two men, all carrying their firearms ready for instant use. A chain of vedettes, a hundred yards apart for a mile back, making eighteen men. The main body of the advance then follows, about thirty strong, with a second chain of vedettes for a second mile, to the advanced guard proper, composed of the leading brigade with its battery.

By passing back signals the approach of the enemy can be transmitted along this line for two miles in less than two minutes, giving the main body time to prepare.

When anything suspicious appears, the officer in front should examine it with his glass. If it is only some scout of the enemy, he ought to be able with his three men to shoot or capture him. If a small party of the enemy is suddenly met, a bold front and vigorous charge will often impose on them and make them believe a heavy force is coming. A loud yell caught up by the vedettes will very often intimidate and deceive the enemy, even if in some force. The object of an advance is to find out the enemy and keep him from finding out anything about your own force; and therefore men of boldness, dash, and plenty of brass are the best for the permanent advance. The same spirits that are turbulent and troublesome in a column are the very ones to be useful in an advance.

The road being protected by the extreme advance, side roads must be supplied with their guards from the chain of vedettes. At every side road encountered a man should leave the chain, the first vedette taking a trot and riding out for about a quarter of a mile, or nearer if a sufficient view is commanded from such point to prevent surprise. The next man in the chain moves up, and the gap is filled by each successively, a man from the main advance supplying one more vedette. When the whole of the advance has passed, this man is relieved from the advanced guard proper and then takes the post of the last vedette in the train.

Under this system, first introduced by General Morgan, C. S. A., a great deal of country is covered with very little labor, two miles ahead of the advanced guard. The employment of flankers and skirmishers, unless the enemy is known to be near, hardly pays for the consumption of horseflesh occasioned by constant riding over broken ground.

Forces likely to be dangerous to a cavalry corps must move on roads, and if two miles of road are occupied by a chain of vigilant vedettes, whose whole business is to look sharp, an enemy will find it impossible to approach very near the column without being seen. Under the chain system the least amount of galloping has to be done by each member of the advance. A hundred yards by each vedette at every cross-road completes the amount. The scouts, who ride in light saddles, are better able to act as flankers.

When the enemy makes his appearance in force not to be denied, the advance must halt and form up in skirmish line to detain him as long as possible. In such case the whole of the main advance, vedettes and all, must gallop to the front and spread out into the fields to check the enemy, yelling like devils, to make him believe them three times as numerous. This is the only time when rapid firing is advisable, as a great show with slender materials has to be made. Inside of twenty minutes relief is sure to come, and then the forward movement must be made in skirmish line with supports, in the regular style.

In countries infested with guerrillas or bushwackers flankers will have to be used, as the annoyance caused by such men to a column is often serious. In such a country a chain of vedettes, at right angles to the line of march, about two hundred feet apart, to the distance of a mile on either flank, will scour the country pretty effectually. In woody country these flankers must be much nearer, and at such times a competent staff officer should take charge of each flank, with two or three orderlies to attend him.

In the case of men detailed for flanking duty, permission should be given them to deposit their grain-sacks and food-wallets with the caissons of the brigade battery as they go to the front. The work is so severe on the horses that they should be favored in every possible manner, and the men execute the duty infinitely better on horses not fagged out with heavy loads. When once a battle begins, and the general line is formed, no such favor can be shown, from the number of combatants involved; but in flanking duty, which often lasts a whole day, and does not occupy more than fifty men at the most liberal computation, the relief can be afforded with much advantage.

Under the system of advanced parties proposed, the rest of a cavalry column can move on independently, and without any formal advanced guard. The only precaution necessary will be that the first regiment of each brigade should be followed by the brigade battery. If the ground is firm as in summer time, the guns and train should march in the road by sections, while a column of fours of the regiments moves along the fields on each side. This plan, when practised, reduces the length of a column of fourteen thousand cavalry with all their baggage to about five miles, allowing every horse a space of five yards in column. This length even will appall a civilian; but to those who have seen the column of a single brigade stretch for over a mile, with its pack train, the reduction will be apparent. In ordinary column of fours, a brigade with a battery and pack train, will occupy a length of twenty-two hundred yards; and a corps of nine such brigades, with ammunition and headquarter trains, over thirteen miles. If the fields are not so soft as to be trodden into mud-holes, the march of a cavalry column on a raid should always be arranged in this manner. A general has his forces well in hand, every part of the column is instantly defensible, the men dismounting in fours if attacked suddenly, and the guns and train being quite safe behind a curtain of troops. But in winter campaigns or in early spring, when the fields are soft, such movements are impossible; and unless necessity is absolute, campaigning is much better left alone at such times. At least I cannot recall an instance during the war in which a "mud raid" proved itself worthy in its results of the terrible expenditure of horses occasioned by it. Only in the last death-throes of the Confederacy, when the overwhelming pressure of circumstances paralyzed their army, was a "mud raid" successful, and even then the same objects would have been accomplished with less sacrifice had the move been deferred till the ground was drier.

The advantages of shortening columns to the greatest extent are best realized when coming into action. A general with a column only five miles in length has the advantage of over one hour over him with a column of thirteen miles. The other cannot bring up half his men to the front, when the "short column general" has put his whole force into line of battle. The preponderance of force will be sufficient at the decisive moment to insure a success by defeating the enemy in detail. But in such cases the general of the corps must keep well to the front, and have first-class scouts, to be able to take the due advantage of time by knowing exactly where the enemy are.

THE DEAD OF OUR WAR.

At the banquet of the Army of the Tennessee in Cincinnati, General Swayne responded to the toast "Our dead—Not dead, but gone before," in the following impressive words:

"Our dead are the true cost of the war. Silver and gold still multiply, and art and science grow. The nation has new life in all its channels, and 'free and equal' lives forever in the flag where all the world may read. Only the dead are dead. Sometimes, perchance in trial or distress, a wistful thought has gone in search of them, as those who were permitted in one hour to sum up and discharge all that remained for them of life, and then realized that since antiquity it has been said that it was sweet as well as glorious to die in arms for a country. Still they are dead, hopelessly dead, for the mother and wife; mournfully dead for the wayward boy; bitterly dead to the hour of want and need of a strong hand; dead also to our love; and yet they live as those whose works do follow them."

"Innumerable colored children south of us are learning busily the shape and structure of the world; learning to love their country and to live like men. Many a time have I seen them and remembered that our dead men teach those schools! So, too, it has been taught a pretty speech that 'liberty and union' were inseparable and

were one, and it was whistled down the wind until death followed the denial, and men read the oracle involved. Let no man doubt it for the evils of to-day. They are only the mill of the gods, slow-grinding, and these dead may yet teach that truth to all the world. We count them dead and reckon up our loss. God simply seems to make them of more use."

BLASTING AT HELL GATE.

A CORRESPONDENT of the New York Standard, who recently visited the scene of the operations at Hell Gate under General Newton, gives the following description of the peculiarities pertaining to the great work of undermining a river:

Previous to our descent into the shaft the superintendent spread out a draughtsman's map or engineer's working guide, explanatory of the configuration and tunnelling of the rocky bed, as it will be when completed and ready for the application of the final electric spark, which will hurl in one grand instantaneous discharge the stubborn barrier to navigation which has been such a blight and eyesore to our maritime interests, and which will, when removed, be a saving of 150 miles to outgoing and incoming vessels of any draught; and Sandy Hook, with its sand bars, dangerous winds on the coast, and roundabout way, will be ignored by foreign craft. The fine water-front of the East River, on either side, will then present a different aspect from what it does now, as the heavy foreign shipments will be transferred to the east side of town, Brooklyn, and Greenpoint. It is said that some of the steamship companies have already negotiated for the lease or purchase of sites along the water-front of Greenpoint for the location of their different lines in anticipation of the opening of the Hell Gate channel. He also explained the various composition of the rocky strata, and the relative mineral substances; the strength of powder required in the blasting of adamantine hardness; the obdurate drills used by the miners; and after a theoretical diagnosis of the effect of electricity, which they employ entirely in the mining operations, he gave us a forcible but practical illustration of how completely the electric spark does the work. Producing the instrument and small wire, at one end of which was appended a small ball resembling a rifle cartridge, he placed it beneath a can and requested us to take the other end of the wire in one hand, and place the other hand on the instrument. He turned a small crank and instantaneously the spark passed through our whole system, striking the wire and exploding the substance beneath the can. We were in ignorance as to the effect of the sensation. Our supposition was that it would be similar to a magnetic shock. It is a great lung tester. It was but a flash of lightning; such is its effect in blasting, and such will be its grand effect when the tunnels are all drilled, the powder chambers filled, the wires connected, and the electric spark applied—the sequence of the final demolition of the rocky contention.

We then descended into the shaft to behold the prodigious work of man. The shaft is a great round opening made in the rock at the point of the land, and outward beneath the river the tunnels take their course. At the suggestion of our gentlemanly guide we entered the tunnel named in honor of President Grant, and where the richest quartz vein abounds. There were the brawny miners drilling away in their dismal tomb—for to us it seemed dismal, but to them it is a second nature. About 25 feet of stone had been removed, and the tunnel carved out as if intended for the passage of a locomotive and train of cars, and is 16 feet wide. There is only 8 feet of stone between the miners in this tunnel and the mighty body of water above. The miners can hear distinctly the passing of the Sound steamers, and can discern what vessel it is from the peculiar revolution of the wheel or screw.

There are ten tunnels, the length of which will vary—some will be bored to the extent of 100 feet, and others more; the Farragut tunnel, No. 1, will be 400 feet in length. All the tunnels are named and numbered. In the interior of the tunnels, at 25 feet equidistant, the galleries, which will be seven in number, are to be cut through, so that they will encircle and form an intersection. In the piers of these galleries will be inserted the powder chambers, which will be charged in accordance with the hardness or softness of the strata. The piers of the tunnels will be charged with 500 to 800 pounds of powder.

The tunnels are in numerical order, and are named respectively Farragut, Madison, Humphreys, Governor Hoffman, Sherman, Jefferson, Grant, McClellan (the Grant and McClellan tunnels being the two richest in quartz), Franklin, and Jackson. Oxide of iron, iron pyrites, and traces of pure gold are found in small quantities in the heavy quartz veins. Three months ago, in the Farragut tunnel, at a depth of 32 feet, in a seam of decomposed mica, tertiary shells were found, which have been considered a great curiosity to find in a primary rock, and on that account were sent to Professor Agassiz of Harvard University, who very ably explained the remarkable incident. Intersected with the heavy quartz veins, the most beautiful vertically stratified gneiss rock has been found in large quantities. It would not be surprising if there was discovered larger quantities of the pure metal, as all the evidences of mineral deposits have been found.

The clearing will be 32 feet 6 inches below mean low water, which is also the floor line of the great shaft, from which about 7,000 cubic yards have been blasted and removed by hoisting 60 feet and deposited on terra firma, and will be used for building purposes, instead of blocking up one of the finest ports of entry in the world.

The whole of this vast undertaking was conceived and devised by Major-General John Newton, major of Corps of U. S. Engineers, and to him the country will be indebted for one of the greatest achievements of modern engineering skill, and too much credit cannot be awarded him, as one of the greatest mathematicians of the age.

Mr. G. C. Reithemer, superintendent and resident mining engineer, is a most remarkable man; a native of

Switzerland, his name is identified with most of the great engineering operations of the present century all over the world. He was the engineer in charge of the operations in the national harbor of Holyhead, England. He is the recipient of numerous compliments from kings, queens, emperors, and the highest notabilities in Europe. Louis Philippe, who was once himself a teacher of mathematics, called upon him personally and congratulated him upon his fine ability. He is quite sanguine that a tunnel under the East River, connecting New-York and Brooklyn, will be completed in advance of the East River bridge.

A NEW REMEDY FOR SMALL-POX.

SEVERAL years ago J. John Garth Wilkinson, a distinguished physician of London, published a pamphlet giving a description of a new method of treating small-pox, which he had adopted. He now publishes another pamphlet in which he gives some account of the results of his treatment, which he declares has been astonishingly successful. The success attained he collects under the following heads:

1. The disease has been abridged in duration. (In my first severe confluent case, to which I was not called until the face and neck were one continuous pustule, and the head swollen hugely, the symptoms were over in a week, and on the eleventh day from my first visit the mask of scab had all separated, and my patient was out in Kensington Gardens.)

2. The inflammation and primary fever are certainly and speedily subdued.

4. The pustulation is arrested, and the secondary fever is annulled.

4. There is no itching of the pustules, and the patient has no motive to pick the face.

5. There is scarcely any pitting, and *à fortiori* there is no seaming, even where the face has been one bag of matter; although in such cases the complexion is roughened for a time.

6. The stench of the old disease has no place.

7. The suffering is reduced to a minimum. Owing to the antiphlogistic exactitude of the *veratrum viride*, and the specific power of the *hydrastis* (the remedies employed), stimulants and nourishment are required and borne from the first.

"These statements," he adds, "are astounding, but a careful brief trial will prove their truth."

His description of his treatment is as follows:

And first for the drugs themselves. I employ the concentrated tinctures of *hydrastis Canadensis* and *veratrum viride* as follows: Mix together a large teaspoonful of each in a tumbler of water for local application, and as soon as the disease appears on the skin dab the affected surface frequently with the lotion. For this purpose a little of it may be warmed in a cup placed in hot water, in order that it may not chill the patient. Let it dry on the skin, only sponging it off occasionally to prevent stiffness and discomfort. As the eruption develops, the sponging may be more frequent, and if the inflammation be intense, double the quantity of *veratrum viride* may be employed, though I have obtained all my results with the single teaspoonful to the tumbler. The *veratrum viride* is, however, comparatively harmless when locally applied, and produces no injurious consequences to the sound skin, even when painted on it in the form of a concentrated tincture. When the swelling is considerable, as in the first few days of confluent small-pox, single linen rags are to be wet in the warmed lotion and kept applied continually to the parts—e. g., over the whole head and scalp, face and neck—the rags being skilfully covered in with gutta percha tissue, so as to keep the inflamed surfaces in a vapor bath of the combined drugs. Finally, if the general strength will bear it, and the means are efficiently at hand, a complete bath at 96 deg. once or twice in twenty-four hours, medicated with two teaspoonsfuls of each of the concentrated tinctures, and exhibited from three to ten minutes at a time, according to the effect, will, I believe, be an active and agreeable means of keeping up and extending the curative medicinal actions. This bath, however, I have not yet tried in small-pox, but I hope to do so in future, in conjunction with the free use of stimulants, which play an important part in the present mode of treatment.

As the inflammation of the skin and the primary fever subside (which they do in from twelve to thirty-six hours under the treatment in question), the *veratrum viride* is omitted from the lotion, and only the *hydrastis Canadensis* applied; and this continuously every hour or two so long as the pustules are developing. If the inflammation occurs again, the *veratrum viride* is again made an ingredient of the tumbler.

If there be cases in which the *veratrum viride* does not abolish the erysipelous swelling that surrounds the eruption, after eighteen hours' trial, and before the pustules are broken, mix a dessert spoonful of coarsely powdered sulphate of soda with a pint of water, and apply this as a lotion instead. It is a marvellous remedy locally applied in erysipelas, especially wherever great exhaustion and collapse are present. It should not, however, be applied on the face after the pustules break, excepting very cautiously and tentatively. Try it in the worst cases.

This is the sum and substance of my local treatment of small-pox, and it is applicable all through the disease, including also the secondary fever; but which, indeed, can hardly be said to exist under these ministrations.

The preparations I use are the concentrated tinctures of *hydrastis Canadensis* and *veratrum viride*, prepared by Keith & Co., of New York, and the fluid essences of the same drugs, prepared by Tilden & Co., of the same city. In order to put my method to the proof, medical practitioners should be careful to be supplied with these preparations, and not with their English substitutes. A good tincture of *V. V.* is made in London, but my results were not obtained with it.

The *hydrastis*, however, can be applied in various ways: either in the cold infusion (a tablespoonful of the powdered root stirred in a tumbler of water, and the clear liquor employed as above); or what is a convenient method where the pustulation and moisture are considerable, by dredging the surface with the powder itself. The latter application may sometimes be usefully alternated with that of the concentrated tincture, the change for the time being grateful to the skin.

So much for the external applications—for that we may call the general local treatment. The internal treatment is pursued with the same remedies. As soon as the disease is suspected, twenty drops of the concentrated tincture of *hydrastis* are mixed with twenty dessertspoonfuls of water; and a dessertspoonful is administered every four hours; and as the disease develops itself the same dose is given every two or three hours, according to the severity of the symptoms. When the fever and erysipelatous swelling of the skin accede, add to the above mixture thirty drops of the concentrated tincture of *veratrum viride*, and administer the combination at the intervals mentioned above. Let the effect be watched, and if faintness or prostration, very slow pulse, with nausea and great perspiration, are produced by the *veratrum viride*, the use of that ingredient must be suspended for a time. Where putrescence is a marked type, and also where the pustulation is greatly developed in the mouth and on the fauces, the concentrated tincture of *baptisia tinctoria* (Keith's) is very serviceable, and may be given in combination with the *hydrastis* in doses of from three to five drops, mixed with each dose of the latter.

Toward the conclusion of the disease, where a tonic is needed, the *hydrastis*, an extract or "alkaloid" of the *hydrastis*, may be given every four hours in doses of from a quarter to half a grain, dissolved in a tablespoonful of water.

With these simple medicinal means I have obtained results unparalleled in the treatment of small-pox.

The dietetic treatment is modified by the fact that the *hydrastis*, from the first dose and the first application, is extinguishing the varioloid poison, and that the *veratrum viride*, with even greater promptness, is rendering the skin tissues and the cellular tissues incombustible, and is destroying the inflammation, and the capacity of the system for inflammation. In consequence of these attainments, the danger of internal complications—bronchitis, pneumonia, cerebral, and abdominal fever-inflammations, or decompositions of tissue—is so far lessened, that a chief aim of the practitioner is directed to sustaining nature under the shock of the disease; in short, to gaining time for convalescence by judicious diet. This should be such as is appropriate in cases of erysipelas, of severe boils, carbuncles, snake bites, and other maladies attended with nervous prostration from vitiation or poisoning of the blood. Among these means, alcohol and water—brandy and water (save in the crisis of ardent fever, when *veratrum viride* has the first part to play)—is of the chiefest importance, and should be gradually and experimentally administered. The Hungarian wine, Carlowitz, or claret, one part in two or three of water, is an agreeable and refreshing diluent, and an excellent roborant for the blood; and later on, when the *hydrastis* is wanted, port wine may be given, if a greater body of blood nutriment is required. Good beef tea should also be supplied according to the digestive power. Fruit is the best solid to commence with. In short, a liberal stimulant and fluid-nutrient diet is to be pressed against the prostration of the disease throughout, the cup to be drawn back whenever nature says "Hold!" by any sign of gastric or general distress, and to be proffered again as soon as such symptoms have abated. In the worst cases pure rum, whiskey, or brandy should be given *ad libitum* to keep the patient alive, as is done in snake bites.

There is, I am aware, nothing new in this dietary, yet it is important to remark that the *hydrastis* and *veratrum viride* render its application at an early stage of the disease, and indeed throughout, more safe and feasible than it would be under the old treatment.

SECRET OF PRUSSIAN EFFICIENCY.

(From the London Army and Navy Gazette.)

THE description afforded by some correspondents of the organization of the higher Prussian staff does not at all adequately explain, in our view, the equally wonderful superiority of the German troops. The reason, we have been told, why the Prussian military machine works so well, is because there is no red tape and no centralization. Everybody from the commander-in-chief of an army down to the subaltern in charge of a picket acts upon general instructions only, shaping his conduct in all but the main lines according to circumstances and the dictates of his common sense. Hence, we are told, the high degree of general intelligence evoked through all ranks and the absence of blundering which have been so conspicuous throughout the war. It was precisely to this system or want of system that the disasters of the first Napoleon were to be in great measure ascribed. Every one who has read the interesting souvenirs of the Due de Fezensac, or the summary of them so ably given not long ago in the *Edinburgh Review*, will have noticed how markedly he dwells on this point. According to this writer and others who might be cited, it was invariably taken for granted in the Grand Army of the First Empire that an order sent always reached the person it was intended for, and that an order given was always obeyed. While instead of tying down the commanders of corps to rigid instructions which would deprive them of all proper responsibility and the use of individual intelligence, the orders given them were couched in the most general terms, indicating rather the nature of the results aimed at than prescribing the precise mode in which they should be effected. Thus one marshal would receive instructions to move on a particular point, with the information added that certain other marshals would co-operate on either flank, the exact way of conducting the operation being left to be settled by them either in combination with or independently of each other.

How this mode of conducting war failed with the great army of 1813, how the marshals were always falling into difficulties, and everything went wrong that was not carried out immediately under Napoleon's own supervision, every student of military history will recollect. And one fertile, if minor, cause of disaster in those days was the miscarriage of orders and despatches. If an aide-de-camp received an order to be delivered at a distance, says De Fezensac, it was always assumed that he was well mounted, that he knew the country thoroughly, and that he would certainly arrive at his destination. Hence it was never thought necessary to send duplicate messengers, and in consequence the most critical orders frequently miscarried. Now this is just what we are constantly hearing is the system in the Prussian army at the present time.

We are told that if a general has to take a certain share in a combined movement with his corps, or division, or brigade, the detailed mode of carrying it out is left to him with the full assurance that everything may safely be left to the working of his intelligence. So, too, if a message has to be despatched or a detachment sent on outpost duty, it is quite enough simply to tell the officer concerned what he has to do, and he may be safely trusted to execute the task by the light of his understanding and finished education.

We utterly disbelieve, however, that the practice of the Prussians is of such kind in reality. The evidence afforded by the facts of the war is in the first place altogether opposed to the hypothesis. So far as can be seen the combined movements of the German armies in all the great battles and other operations of which we have had a distinct account were conducted under most rigid and detailed control from the central authority, and the same sort of precision extended down to the placing of a picket. Over-centralization indeed was happily avoided. Orders were not given direct by a high authority to a subordinate, passing over the intermediate channels through which the communication should have been made, and reducing them to nullity; but there seems no doubt that, from General Moltke down to the subaltern commanding a section, each had those below him thoroughly in hand, and was ready in turn to respond to the slightest intimation of the officer next above him. It is only in this way indeed that any army can work properly, while there is nothing in the antecedents of the Prussian army to afford the presumption that they would exhibit any exceptional tendency to depart from the routine of discipline.

The truth seems to be that to find a cause for the superiority of the one army over the other we must look not to differences of system but to difference in discipline, meaning by this term not mere precision in mechanical movements or due observance of the forms of outward

respect—two points in which the French army, however, was woefully deficient—but that spirit of complete obedience which begets mutual trust throughout the different ranks. It was not so much, we believe, that in the mode of carrying on duty more was intentionally left to individual discretion in the one army than the other, as that in the one an order given was always implicitly obeyed to the best of every man's power, so that all parties could rely confidently on the hearty co-operation of those associated with them in the performance of whatever had to be done. When this spirit is once instilled into an army it becomes invincible, because its general knows that every effort demanded of it short of the impossible will be certainly exerted. It was this spirit which animated Wellington's army at the close of the Peninsular war; it is this quite as much as its superior fighting power and physical strength which has given the Germans their complete supremacy over their demoralized antagonists. It is worth noticing that while the Prussian military system, from Frederick the Great's time down to the present, has been very exacting in its demands upon all ranks, it is very chary of reward. It is possible to have a very high standard of public spirit in an army without a profusion of brevets and decorations.

THE GERMAN EMPEROR TO HIS SUBJECTS.

THE First German Reichstag was opened at Berlin, March 21, with the following speech from the throne:

HONORED GENTLEMEN: In seeing, for the first time, the German Reichstag assembled around me, after a glorious but arduous struggle triumphantly maintained by Germany in defence of her independence, I am first of all impelled to return to God my humble thanks for the epoch-marking successes with which his mercy has blessed the faithful co-operation of the German Confederate States, the heroic courage and discipline of our armies, and the self-sacrificing and cheerful devotion of the German people. We have gained for Germany what has been so ardently longed for since the times of our fathers, unity with its requisite organic forms, security of our frontiers, and that independence in our national development which is our legitimate right. The consciousness of our unity has always subsisted, though veiled, among the German people. The veil has at length been rent away in the enthusiasm with which the entire nation arose in defence of our imperilled country, and wrote in indelible characters on the battle-fields of France our determination to be and remain a united people.

The spirit which pervades the German nation, and leavens its moral formation and culture, no less than the constitution of the Empire and the organization of its armies, secure Germany, in the midst of her good fortune, from any temptation to abuse the strength she has acquired by her unification. The respect which the German people demand for their own independence they will always readily show for the independence of other States and nations, whether the latter be weak or strong. The new Germany which has emerged from the fiery ordeal of the late war will be a sure safeguard of the peace of Europe, for it is strong, and it possesses besides the consciousness that the ordering of its own affairs is exclusive, but at the same time its sufficient and ample inheritance.

It has afforded me especial pleasure to raise the voice of Germany in this spirit of peace—while we were engaged in the onerous war we have been carrying on—during the negotiations which have come to a satisfactory conclusion at the conference convoked in London in consequence of the efforts at mediation made by my Foreign Office.

The first German Reichstag will immediately be called on to perform the honorable duty of doing what can be done to heal the wounds inflicted by the war, and to show the gratitude of the country to those who have paid for victory with their blood and their lives. At the same time, gentlemen, you will commence the labors by means of which the organs of the German Empire will co-operate in the task prescribed to you by the constitution: "to protect the law in force in Germany, and to watch over the prosperity of the German nation."

The preparations for regular legislation have unfortunately been delayed and interrupted by the war; the bills which will be submitted to you have therefore arisen immediately from the new construction of Germany. The constitutional provisions which are now scattered through the various treaties of last November, will be reduced to order and find a regular expression in a new revision of the imperial constitution. The proportion which each of the Federal States has to bear in the current expenses of the Empire requires to be legally regulated. Your assistance will be claimed for the introduction of the North German laws into Bavaria, which is contemplated by the Government of his Majesty the King of that State. The indemnity to be paid by France will be disposed of, with your assent, in accordance with the requirements of the Empire and the just claims of the States which compose it, and the accounts with respect to the sums expended on the war will be submitted to you as soon as circumstances shall permit.

The condition of the districts now regained by Germany will demand a series of measures, the basis of which has to be formed by Federal legislation. A law respecting the pensions of the officers and soldiers and the support of the relations of the fallen, is intended to place on the same footing the claims of all parts of the German army, which, by showing the same devotion to their country, have merited in the same degree the gratitude of the nation.

Gentlemen, may the re-establishment of the German Empire be for the German nation the omen of new greatness also in domestic affairs. May the war of the German Empire, which we have brought to so glorious a conclusion, be followed by a peace of the Empire not less glorious; and may the task of the German people in future be confined to proving themselves victors in the rivalry for the blessings of peace!

May God grant it!

THE NATIONAL GUARD.

THE TWENTY-SECOND'S "LEFT."—On the evening of the 21st inst. the left wing of this regiment, comprising Companies F, I, G, B, and E, assembled at the regimental armory for practical instruction in battalion movements. The battalion was equalized by Adjutant Harding, presenting a front of fourteen files, five commands, Major Brown, the recently elected lieutenant-colonel, being in command. The battalion undoubtedly would have looked and worked better had it been reduced to four or increased to six commands. This would have offered better advantages for the execution of movements by division, and would have given the junior officers an opportunity to hold commands. As it was, in these movements, the right and left companies had to "go it alone." Some movements were thus rendered impossible, and others exceedingly awkward. The major, however, did not undertake any very difficult movements, and those executed by the battalion exhibited an improvement on the former effort of this wing, although none were fully up to the standard of the right wing. In almost every regiment the right wing is generally conceded to be the best in drill. Exceptions occur, however, to this rule, which invariably have some foundation in the material of the companies composing the wing, and the efficiency of its officers. Perhaps one of the most plausible reasons for the superiority in drill of right wings is that they are generally composed of senior companies, who naturally have more experienced members and officers. Moreover, it frequently happens, as at the drill of this wing, that while the general standard of the left is not equal to the right, it may excel it in some minor characteristics. Now, while the metronome for the nonce was laid aside at this drill, it was evident to us that the general step of the men was more regular than that of the right wing; but in the wheelings, alignments, and general executions it was much inferior. Marchings were the principal occupation of the evening, in which the battalion gave a very fair exhibition, both in quick and double time. In several instances the battalion commander, after an "in place" or "parade rest," gave merely the preparatory command "Attention," omitting the word "battalion." This perhaps is a small matter, but nevertheless very necessary if any distinction is to be made between a squad, company, or battalion. In executing the "right" and "left about" the fours failed to preserve the alignment. This gave a confused appearance to the execution. This was frequently the error of the pivot men, or too great hurry on the part of the rear rank, causing the arc of the circle to become broken. Similar confusion is noticeable in many regiments, the fours invariably failing to keep themselves distinct. This movement is very attractive and beautiful when the men take time, and preserve the alignments in wheeling. Colonel Porter was present in citizen's clothes, being unable to assume command from indisposition. The presence of only the junior field officer, who was in command, rendered it essential therefore that at least one of the senior company commanders should act as an assistant field officer; but instead, the adjutant performed these duties. Nominally at a drill in-doors the adjutant has specific duties; but when it is necessary, and circumstances admit of it, his position is on the right, as an assistant to the lieutenant-colonel, and that of the sergeant-major on the left, as an assistant to the major. We see no authority for his officiating in a capacity to which he is disqualified by rank. But adjutants perform these duties very frequently in the National Guard; and even if only out of respect for ambitious officers, we think the practice should be abolished. In the absence of field officers, company commanders should be allowed every opportunity to perfect themselves for field positions, even if they are never to occupy those positions permanently by rank. In writing of the right wing drill of this regiment we spoke of the informal mode of dismissal, the commanding officer merely giving the command "Parade dismissed," officers sheathing their swords, and first sergeants marching their companies off the ground. Colonel Porter maintains, and with some grounds we must admit, that there is no authority for a division of the dress parade ceremony; that the usual custom of first sergeants coming to the front and centre of the battalion, etc., is essentially unnecessary. This has been the usual manner of dismissing a battalion, and as Upton prescribes no regular mode of conducting this ceremony, we think custom in this instance overrules the theory of our friend Colonel Porter. His mode is altogether too informal, even after a drill.

EIGHTH INFANTRY.—Commandants of companies are directed to order all members recruited since April 1, 1870, to appear at the armory in fatigue uniform, with body belt, on Wednesday evening, May 3, at 8 o'clock, and every Wednesday evening thereafter until further orders. Captain William Green is detailed to take command of the recruit class. Commandants of companies are ordered to forward to the adjutant the names of all members recruited since April 1, 1870. A complimentary hop tendered to Drum-Major McKeever by the officers and enlisted men of the regiment took place at the armory on Monday evening last. The social gathering was very largely attended, every one apparently enjoying the entertainment, and lavishing great praise on the veteran drum-major and his fine corps.

Henry W. Clark, Company B, has been appointed sergeant-standard-bearer, vice James Shaw, resigned. By a vote of his company, August Merckle, Company K, has been

expelled "for conduct unbecoming a soldier and a gentleman," and the action of the company is approved by Colonel Scott. Due notice will be given of the time for the full-dress parade. The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Officers is postponed to the second Monday in May.

FOURTY-SEVENTH INFANTRY.—The closing drill of Company E, which was to have taken place on Wednesday evening last, has been indefinitely postponed by a vote of the company in consequence of the recent decease of two of its members, ex-Sergeant O. M. Ferry and Private J. H. Sandblom.

NINTH INFANTRY.—It is now pretty well settled that this command will celebrate the tenth anniversary of its departure for the war, on the 27th of May, by an afternoon parade in full-dress uniform. On Monday evening Company K elected Private A. T. Grosser sergeant, and Private A. P. Stevens corporal. On the same evening the following civil officers were elected: Secretary, J. S. Cark; Treasurer, E. B. Hull. Court-martial—President, First Lieutenant Bacon; Sergeant Ainsworth, and Privates Squires, Hogan, and Knowles. Finance Committee—Lieutenant Mulligan, Sergeant Groser, and Private Merrill. Recruiting Committee—Lieutenant Bacon and Privates Frier and Fuller. It will be recollect that the first instalment of Colonel Fisk's recruiting prizes, amounting to the sum of \$1,000, was distributed last fall, after considerable dispute, to the several companies declared winners. The second prize of \$1,000, offered by the colonel to the company recruiting the largest number of men between the months of September and January, was won and distributed as follows: Company K, \$500; Company B, \$300; and Company H, \$200. These amounts will be placed to the credit of the uniform fund of these companies.

FIFTY-FIFTH INFANTRY.—This command, Colonel Allen, assembled at the State Arsenal on Friday evening of last week. The regiment marched from its armory to the arsenal, where the equalizations were made and the line formed for a dress parade. This ceremony was performed in rather a bungling style by the acting adjutant of the regiment, who equalized with the first sergeant at an "order," and committed other errors, upon which we forbear to comment. Perhaps the assistance offered by the major had a tendency to disconcert the young officer, who was evidently under no little nervous excitement. The dress parade over, company commandants assumed command of their respective companies, and the battalion was broken into column for informal inspection. The men then stacked arms and were dismissed for a short time to chat with their friends, a large number of whom were present. The band meanwhile, under Wannemacher, discoursed some good music. The rest was perhaps of a half-hour's duration; the regiment then assembled and formed for review by Brigadier-General Varian, commanding Third brigade. The general and his staff were in their elegant full-dress uniforms, and appeared to excellent advantage, their uniforms being perhaps the handsomest and neatest in the National Guard. The review was exceedingly fair, the men appearing extraordinarily steady; and in the passage in review the company fronts were generally well aligned, and the wheelings remarkably good. The salutes of the officers were generally good, but the officer commanding the left company in line failed to give an exhibition of his qualities as a swordsman by omitting to salute; he did not even deign to notice the reviewing officer. The colors omitted to droop when the ruffle was beaten by the drum corps, which appeared exceedingly well on this occasion. At the close of the review the companies failed to take their original positions, therefore giving the line the letter L formation, for which there was no reasonable excuse, and the principal cause of which was the dressing of the two companies on the right; one dressing toward the right and the other to the left, leaving a gap of at least six feet between. The colonel should have had this gap closed up before concluding the ceremony, as it had the effect of marring what otherwise would have been a very fair review for the fifty-fifth. The regiment shortly after the review marched from the arsenal, headed by the regimental band, and took its course, amid the gentle dropping of rain, toward the armory in Hall place. The regiment paraded eight commands of twelve files, Company A, the distinctive French company of the regiment, reporting only one officer, two sergeants, and half a file. Colonel Allen has some faults—and who has not?—but he has better control of the Fifty-fifth than any of its former commanders, and the regiment to-day is in better condition every way than at any other period of its existence. The Franco-Prussian war now raging in the regiment will undoubtedly be settled much like the war of similar designation in Europe, on the side of Germany, for they are the dominant party at present in the regiment.

FIRST BRIGADE COURT-MARTIAL.—The proceedings, findings, and sentences of the brigade court-martial for the trial of delinquencies and deficiencies of officers in this brigade, convened by General Orders No. 1, current series, and Special Orders No. 3, current series, from these headquarters, and of which Lieutenant-Colonel George M. Wolcott was president, in the cases of the following officers fined and excused, have been approved by Brigadier-General Ward:

First Cavalry—Second Lieutenant Jacob Kohn, \$10; Second Lieutenant Christian Gottwold, \$10; Second Lieutenant John H. Prehn, \$5. Twelfth Infantry—Second Lieutenant Edward Wood, \$35; Second Lieutenant Thomas Carroll, \$5. Twenty-second Infantry—Captain Richard

Vose, \$5; Captain Dunnelle Van Schaick, \$10; Second Lieutenant J. Lenox Huggins, \$10; Second Lieutenant Aaron B. Carpenter, \$5. Sixty-ninth Infantry—First Lieutenant Daniel Draddy, \$5; First Lieutenant Edward N. Laffey, \$5. Seventy-first Infantry—Captain Samuel W. Osgood, \$15; First Lieutenant James T. Brinckerhoff, \$10. Seventy-ninth Infantry—Assistant Surgeon James K. Walker, \$20; Second Lieutenant Peter L. Buchanan, \$10. The following officers were excused: First Cavalry—Captains George Avery, Adam Hamm, John Lutjen. First Lieutenants Christian Hachemeister, Nicholas Bremer, George Dellert; Second Lieutenants Edward Haesler, Henry Brockhausen, Frederick Heimbach. Twelfth Infantry—Captain John H. French. Twenty-second Infantry—Captain William J. A. McGrath; First Lieutenants John P. Congdon, Edward Bussell; Second Lieutenant Theodore P. Austin. Sixty-ninth Infantry—First Lieutenant Frederick T. Goggin. Seventy-first Battalion—Assistant Surgeon Alfred Starr; Quartermaster T. Lynch Raymond; Captains James S. Turner, Abram L. Webber, Alfred Spear; First Lieutenants Joseph B. Coe, Charles F. De Borst, Henry K. White; Second Lieutenants William C. Dow, Theodore V. Smith, Stephen Curtiss, Jr., John R. Davenport, Charles E. Brown. Seventy-ninth Battalion—Chaplain Stephen Merritt, Captain Joseph Ross.

The proceedings, findings, and sentences in the cases of Captain William H. Benjamin (supernumerary), late of Seventy-first Infantry, and First Lieutenant Adam Steele (resigned), late of Seventy-ninth Battalion, are disapproved, the court not having jurisdiction.

TWENTY-THIRD INFANTRY.—Mr. L. Connero, the director of the Twenty-third regiment band, will give at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, under the auspices of the regiment, a grand mammoth concert on the 13th of May. There will be a combination of the Twenty-third and Seventh regiment bands, making in all over one hundred performers. In addition to these there will be a full orchestra of the Italian opera troupe and several prominent soloists, vocal and instrumental, the whole promising to be one of the most elaborate musical entertainments given in Brooklyn for many years. Company B, Captain Truslow, gave a closing drill and hop at the State Arsenal, Brooklyn, on Wednesday evening last. The company paraded sixteen files, and made an exceedingly creditable exhibition, and at the close of the drill received well-merited applause. The marchings were very steady, and the manual most commendable. The drill was not an exhibition drill, but merely an exhibition of the progress of the company in drill during the past season, and it showed marked improvement over its former season. Dancing followed the drill, and continued until past midnight. The participants were very select, and every matter was conducted well. One of the marked features of the entertainment was the attendance of numerous naval officers and general officers.

FIFTH INFANTRY.—The banquet given by the officers of this regiment at Irving Hall on Tuesday evening last in honor of Jefferson's birthday was a most happy and convivial reunion, and marked by the most harmonious feelings. Colonel Bendix presided, and, as usual on these occasions, after the feast a perfect flood of eloquence in English and German followed, each speaker being received with loud applause. Colonel Bendix, Lieutenant-Colonel Krueger, ex-Lieutenant-Colonel Hillenbrand, ex-Colonel Lux, Lieutenant-Colonel Unbekant, Major Oberman, and many others of the Fifth, Eleventh, and other regiments of the Second brigade, not omitting Major Smith of the brigado staff, responded to toasts; and the whole entertainment was marked by good humor and good fellowship, in which our German friends take the lead of all others.

THIRTEENTH INFANTRY.—The right wing of this regiment, comprising Companies B, D, A, H, and K, assembled for drill and instruction at the State Arsenal, Brooklyn, on Monday evening last. Colonel Mason, Lieutenant-Colonel Briggs, and Major Daniell were present, and Lieutenant Laidlaw acted as adjutant in the absence of Adjutant Richards. The wing was consolidated, presenting a strength of four commands of ten files front. We have not the opportunity for the extended remarks on the drill we would wish to give, and therefore will merely state that it was very fair, although not what we would desire, and that generally the men did better than the officers. An increase of steadiness was noticeable in the ranks, and a general desire on the part of the men to do well. The commandant of the right company was surprisingly absent-minded, for we can attribute his omissions during the drill to nothing else, knowing him to be a good soldier. The officer commanding the third company in line was at fault several times, particularly when the battalion broke to the rear by the right into column, placing himself on the wrong flank of his company and marching it many paces beyond the column. This movement was executed three times in succession before it approached perfection. The officer mainly at fault had never had command before, being a newly elected officer. This perhaps offers some excuse, and we think under the circumstances it would have been better to have placed a more experienced officer in command. The officer had admirable pluck and confidence, but lacked experience. The acting adjutant, although an officer of the Volunteer service and of long experience in the Thirteenth, we must confess at this drill did not cover himself with glory. For an officer who ordinarily has more confidence than the majority of men, and long known as a ready speaker and

"side-splitting" joke relater, we must express some surprise at his confusion on this occasion. We forbear comment, trusting that in the future he will exhibit in military command the same confidence he has shown elsewhere. Lack of ability undoubtedly was not the cause of his blundering formation and dismissal of the regiment. This was the first battalion drill of the regiment since December, and under the circumstances could not be expected to be particularly good; nevertheless the men did exceedingly well, and deserve praise for their marked attention. The left wing assembled on Thursday evening for drill. After the battalion drill on Monday evening, Sergeant Strong of Company D substantially entertained the company at his residence. A few hours were then merrily spent in listening to instrumental and vocal music, the company departing at midnight as it came, with the tap of a solitary drum. The entertainment was tendered in part as a compliment to Captain Hempstead, who, with Captain Bush of Company I, has just returned from a short sojourn South.

THE "OLD GUARD."—About 9 o'clock on Saturday evening, the 22d inst., a tall gentleman in evening dress walked up Broadway apparently looking for a number. When he came to No. 907 he stopped and took from his pocket a card; as if to assure himself of the address, he looked several times alternately at the number on the building and at the card, and, with a half-incredulous air, proceeded a long dimly lighted passage and up several narrow flights of stairs, looking about inquiringly as he went, till at last he emerged from the lonely passage into a brilliantly lighted hall, where a large company of gentlemen was assembled to celebrate the third anniversary of the "Old Guard" by a social reunion. A splendid feast was spread, and after the guests had shown their appreciation of the delicate viands, they filled their glasses and partook of an intellectual feast in the form of toasts and speeches. The first toast, "The day we celebrate," was responded to by Mr. Henrques in a very apt and beautiful speech. We greatly regret that our limited space will not permit us to speak at length of the toasts and responses which followed. Many of the speeches were highly eloquent, especially the response of Rev. Matthew Hale Smith to a toast, "The Navy," which was brimful of patriotism and spirit, and delivered in the usual graceful manner of the chaplain of the "Old Guard." Messrs. Burke and Allen presided gracefully at the board, and Mr. Sanderson at the piano. Mr. Foster enlivened the evening by his imitable recitations and songs. The arrangements were well conceived and executed, and the entertainment will be long remembered with pleasure by all present.

TWELFTH INFANTRY.—This command is ordered to assemble at the State arsenal in full dress uniform, white gloves, for battalion drill, on Monday, May 8. Assembly at 7:45 p.m. Field and staff will report to the colonel; non-commissioned staff, band, field music, color guard, and general guides to the adjutant at assembly. This being the closing drill of the season, tickets of admission will be issued, which can be obtained by members of the regiment on application to their respective commandants. Sergeant-Major William H. Kirby, Jr., has been elected and commissioned second lieutenant Company G, rank from February 7, 1871, vice Walker promoted. This is a deserved promotion, and the lieutenant will undoubtedly make a good officer.

TWENTY-EIGHTH INFANTRY.—On Monday evening last Company B, Captain Eger, held its twenty-fourth annual ball at Military Hall, Brooklyn, E. D. The ball-room was decorated with German and American flags, muskets, and many other military insignia, presenting a very attractive appearance. At an early hour the room began to fill with the many friends of the company and regiment, so that by 9 o'clock, when dancing commenced, every available space was occupied. Perhaps it is well here to remark that, while the members of the company were largely represented, there was a general absence of members of other companies of the regiment; and this was particularly noticeable relative to officers, Col. Burger and one lieutenant being about the only official representatives of the Twenty-eighth outside of Company B. The music, which was excellent, was furnished by the regimental band, under Professor Frank; and to its lively strains merry feet were kept in motion from "early eve to dewy morn." The toilets of the ladies were most becoming and tasty, and the number of *schone madchen* was exceedingly large. One of the features of the evening was the introduction of the favorite national German song, "Die Wacht am Rhein," by a number of gentlemen present, Miss Schlegel personating Germania. Every matter was pleasantly arranged, the attentions to guests most hospitable, and the pleasant entertainment was "gerade wie in Deutschland." Among the officers present were Colonel Burger and Lieutenant Schweitzer of the Twenty-eighth, Major Karcher, Captains Manhardt, Kissel, Knant, Lieutenants Ebel, Plaut, and Frick of the Thirty-second, Captain Wachermann of Battery B, Second division, and others.

FIRST INFANTRY (HAWKINS ZOUAVES).—Company F of this command gave a calico sociable at the regimental armory, Thirty-second street, on Monday evening last. The hall was decorated with the State and city banners and national flags, and a large red shield at one end with a silver star and rays, and on the stage were stacks of drums and muskets. The guests were rather tardy in coming, so that the promenade did not begin till nearly ten, after which the dancing was opened with a quadrille, and continued to a late hour. Nearly all the ladies were neatly and becom-

ingly dressed in calicoes and muslins, though we observed a few ostentatious exceptions. Most of the gentlemen were in uniform. We noticed the presence of two swallow-tails and one infant in arms, which seemed to be regarded with lively interest. Five hundred invitations were given out, but not more than three hundred persons were present. The music by the First regiment band was highly creditable. Everybody was in the best of spirits, and the sociable passed off in a very satisfactory manner.

THE "MASON GREYS," Company I, Thirteenth regiment, has issued the following circular; and it is apparent that the "Greys," although large in numbers, do not "come up" as expected, even for an organization having so excellent a designation as "Mason," the name of the regimental commander:

BROOKLYN, April 24, 1871.

To avoid unpleasantness, members of this command who hold tickets for the concerts, ball, etc., given by the regiment, will render an immediate settlement for the same to the first sergeant, either at the armory on Monday or Wednesday evenings next ensuing, or at his office, 42 Dey street, New York. The necessity of complying with this paragraph is imperative, and must be attended to, the treasurer of the Board of Officers urgently requesting the prompt closing up of all past festival accounts.

It is a duty incumbent upon each individual member to pay promptly his dues and subscriptions, in order that the treasurer may be enabled to liquidate our just indebtedness in proper season, and thus enhance our good credit. Those who prove delinquent in this particular will be returned to headquarters to be dealt with in the summary manner established by law.

Non-commissioned officers are directed to give prompt and careful attention to the serving of notices and the complete and proper filling up of their squad-warrant returns. Neglect in this particular, being quite inexcusable, will be visited with severe measures.

The members of this company are expected to waive any and all possible excuses, and present themselves in full numbers at the wing drill of the 27th instant, and more especially to attend the battalion drill of the 4th proximo.

Roll call 7:45 P.M.

On this latter occasion the exercises of the evening will conclude with a hop.

The attention of the members is solicited to the importance of making effectual preparation for a creditable performance at the closing drill of the company on the 31st proximo. To do this it is judicious to prepare thoroughly; and it is absolutely necessary that each individual member exhibit sufficient interest and pride in our corps and its prosperity to attend all drills for the remaining short season prior to its occurrence.

Early attendance at drills hereafter will be insisted upon. The senior non-commissioned officer present on such occasions is instructed to return for fine all who may be absent at first roll call.

There is no good reason why Company I should not be notable alike for excellence of drill and discipline, as well as largeness of numbers; and your commandant is determined it shall be so. A united and hearty concurrence is fully expected in promoting and establishing this desideratum. Steadiness in ranks, gentlemanly deportment, attention and prompt obedience to orders, and a respectful demeanor toward non-commissioned officers, will therefore be strenuously insisted upon; and all contrary conduct will receive the severest punishment.

The advisability of enacting a series of laws more particularly applicable to our veteran members will be brought before the next monthly meeting. It is particularly requested that all veterans be present on that occasion.

Members who have lately, or are about to change their residences must promptly notify the first sergeant of the fact.

It is with much pleasurable gratification that the corps is complimented for increased proficiency and improved discipline, and which has also attracted the favorable notice of our superior officers who have witnessed our weekly drills. Let us heartily unite in determination to merit greater approbation.

The tone of the above circular is altogether too imperative, almost every paragraph thereof threatening delinquents with more penalties than the law would allow or Captain Bush possibly enforce. Members of the National Guard are frequently remiss in their duties, and should be made to comprehend their errors in other ways than the issue of orders or circulars threatening them with the severest punishment. The seventh paragraph of this circular among other things insists on a more "respectful demeanor toward non-commissioned officers, and all contrary conduct will receive the severest punishment." Perhaps it is well to ask what will be the consequence if any member is disrespectful toward a commissioned officer, or is this respect required only toward the "non-coms"? The circular has many good points which would and should be conducive in aiding the company in its organization and increasing its strength; but the mode of placing them before the members is decidedly objectionable.

Lieutenant Coit of this company has offered a gold recruiting medal.

VARIOUS ITEMS.—When the bill appropriating \$250,000 (not \$150,000, as erroneously reported last week) for breech-loaders for the National Guard service was introduced into the Legislature, one of the members opposed it on the ground that the State troops did not need these arms at the present time, and that even broomsticks would serve the present purpose. If this be true, the troops might with equal reason abolish drills and all war-like preparations in time of peace, and we might by the same reasoning do away with the expenses incurred in maintaining fire insurance, life insurance, and other devices for protecting us against the possible contingencies of the future. We understand a board composed of officers of the National Guard will be appointed to examine the many patterns of breech-loaders before any of these arms will be adopted, thereby checking any chance

of political jobbery.....We observe that a few regimental commanders of the First division have endeavored to imitate the questionable taste of Colonel Fisk by presenting all recipients of regimental courtesies with a portrait of themselves. We presume these facial representations will eventually succeed the usual coats of arms which now decorate General Orders, etc.....In answer to our correspondent O. B. P. we would state that there is no definite reason why first sergeants should not execute the manual at dress parade the same as any other portion of the command. It is not always performed, we are aware, but we see no reason for its abolition. Moreover, its non-execution mars the front rank. 2. Upton undoubtedly intended that "arms apart" should be executed from a "carry." The execution from a "support" is rather awkward. 3. A captain has not the power to accept the warrant of a sergeant, nor is such sergeant reduced, unless the regimental commander approves of the transaction.....Captain George Ross, of the Thirty-second Infantry, sailed for Europe in the steamer *Rhein* last Saturday. As the Thirty-second regiment are making preparations for a new uniform, the captain on his return will bring with him samples of hats and uniforms.....Why don't the Twenty-eighth elect a lieutenant-colonel? We trust when it acts upon this matter it will choose a competent officer.....Dr. B. Wilhelm, late assistant surgeon of the Twenty-eighth Infantry, was buried with funeral honors on Wednesday last, the regiment parading as escort to the remains of the deceased. He was a and favorite officer of the regiment.....The Seventh receive the Twenty-third of Brooklyn on the occasion of its spring parade in May next.....The Parade Ground bill has been signed by the Governor.....The Ninth regiment paraded at wing drills (private) held during the week over 200 men at each.....The Eighty-fourth at its informal inspection at the State Arsenal on Wednesday evening paraded ten commands of twelve files, in full dress uniform. Lieutenant-Colonel Mitchell was in command, and the regiment looked well.....General Apathy of the Thirteenth has resigned.....The Twelfth paraded at the State Arsenal on Thursday evening.....The armory of the [Twenty-third] has been declared unsafe. Application has been made for the use of the Brooklyn rink, with some prospects of obtaining the same, for armory purposes.....Six hundred Remington breech-loaders, we learn, will be delivered to the Thirteenth Infantry next week. They will have the Schofield improvement.

OUT-OF-TOWN ITEMS.

MASSACHUSETTS.—The Boston *Times* has the following particulars relative to the State championship:

The committees of both Montgomery and Boston City Guards met at the armory of the latter on Thursday evening last, when the committee from the Montgomeys offered to drill the City Guard on the same terms as regulated the drill between Captain Finan and Captain Jordan. To these regulations, however, the City Guard took exceptions, principally to the articles providing that "the decisions of the judges shall be made on the field," the reasons for their objections being that the friends of Company I were of such a character that trouble would ensue, and the City Guard would be molested.

Company I objected to anything other than the decision of judges on the field, and deny that their friends and supporters would resort to any such means as intimated; they therefore refused to give way to the City Guard on these grounds, as such a proposition is derogatory to the company and its friends. Company I is willing to drill City Guard on honorable conditions, but will not have its supporters brought into contempt by agreeing to such a proposition as that presented by Company D.

At all previous drills the decisions have been made on the field, and at a prize drill at Riverside, in which the commander of the City Guard was one of the judges, the decisions were given on the field, as was also the case at the drills of the Dorchester Rifles versus the Sheridan Rifles, and at prize drills the decisions have been made in the same manner. Company I will, therefore, stand by all former precedents. Lieutenant McVey also denies that any private offer of a bet of \$500 has been made to him.

POUGHKEEPSIE.—Lieutenant-Colonel A. F. Lindley, of the Twenty-first Infantry, on Friday evening of last week was the recipient of an elegant sword with its appurtenances, the generous gift of Company A. Captain Sam. K. Darrow in a happy manner made the presentation. The *Eagle* says in its account of the presentation "that Lieutenant-Colonel Lindley well deserves the honor shown him. He has been attached to the Twenty-first regiment for a long time, and for ten years was commandant of the company which last night made him so elegant a presentation. His influence in that company and in the regiment always inspired the rank and file with enthusiasm, and went far toward making the entire organization an honor to the city and county. After the presentation all present adjourned to Smith's restaurant upon invitation of the lieutenant-colonel." A number of officers and friends of the regiment were present, and the affair was exceedingly pleasant. The Twenty-first is one of the most flourishing regiments on the banks of the Hudson, and Colonel Smith, its estimable commander, is well known in the National Guard. The regiment at its last muster paraded over 500 men.

ALBANY.—**Cavalry Squadron.**—This cavalry organization gave an exhibition drill last week. We quote a few of the details from the Albany *Press*:

The arrangements, which were under the charge of Major Schwarzen, were perfect, and one of the features introduced by

him we should like to see copied by other organizations in this vicinity who may propose to make public drills; and that is the assembling of the men some time before the guests of the company are invited to be present. On this occasion the members were ordered to assemble at 7:30, we believe, and the guests were invited at 9 o'clock, at which hour the exhibition drill was to commence. By this means plenty of time is had to inspect and instruct the men in details, which cannot always be anticipated, and when the proper time arrives the men are ready, and the guests do not see the preparations, and generally leave with a better impression. In this case the hour designated for the commencement of the exercises gave plenty of time for the men to prepare themselves, and the guests to assemble.

At 9 o'clock precisely the line was formed in single rank. There were present four officers, six band, one bugler, and fifty non-commissioned officers and privates. The appearance of the men was neat, soldierly, and uniform. The evolutions in the school of the squadron were generally well performed, but the time was very slow. Marching by platoon, the distances were well kept, and the movement on the right by file into line deserves special praise. The sabre exercise was performed by a portion of the squadron, and, as a whole, was well done, Sergeant Schroder and Private Lansing performing the exercise with great precision and spirit. Both are old soldiers, and have seen active service. A sabre charge at double-quick was executed with much spirit and with fine effect. The exercises concluded with a dress parade. *Private Lansing acted as adjutant, apparently being the only one who understood the ceremony.* After the dress parade, Adjutant-General Townsend, who, by the way, was in citizen's dress, reviewed the squadron. The passing in review was fairly performed, but the marching should have been in quick time. The second time the marching was in the same time instead of double-quick, and the officers saluted. The Cavalry Squadron is one of the largest and best organizations in the brigade, and when we consider the difficulties which infantry organizations have to contend with, we can realize the immense amount of labor requisite to keep up a first class cavalry organization.

The italics used above are ours. The idea is a novel one that an organization which boasts of its military perfection should be without an officer competent to perform the simple duties of an adjutant at a dress parade. It would have been better to have this portion of the performance omitted, for it was in fact the play of Hamlet with Hamlet left out. There is no regular prescribed ceremony for cavalry dress parade, we admit, not even for a *squadron*; still it is a gross breach of military privilege to allow a *private* to perform the duties of a *commissioned officer* on any occasion. If *Private Lansing* must be depended upon to perform the duties of adjutant, the sooner he is promoted the better.

The Twenty-fifth Infantry, Colonel Andes, continues to perfect its arrangements for visiting New York, in June next. The regiment will leave Albany on the evening of June 5, accompanied by Klein's band of forty performers and a full drum corps. The excursion will be of two days' duration, and the regiment during its stay will be the guests of the Eleventh, Colonel Funk. We trust, and in fact we know, that the visitors will receive every attention from their hosts and other regiments of the division. The Press says: "Many of our military men, remembering the fine display by the battalion who received the Seventh regiment two years ago, are advocating a parade of a battalion composed in like manner on Memorial Day."

TEXAS.—One thousand breech-loading rifles, with equipments complete, have been purchased in New York, at a total cost of \$30,000, for distribution among the enrolled militia and State Guard.

WHY WE ARE THIN AND NERVOUS.

We find in the Boston *Medical and Surgical Journal* an article translated from the French of M. E. Desor of Neufchâtel. It is upon "The Climate of the United States and its Effects on Habits of Life and Moral Qualities," and is certainly most interesting and striking in its statements and deductions. We agree, however, with the translator in his hesitancy to receive some of its conclusions, and in claiming an abatement of many of them, which are carried to great extremes. Yet there is truth in M. Desor's main point, that the greater dryness of the air in the United States is the cause of certain marked physical and moral differences between ourselves and the Europeans. The quantity of water which falls in the United States, under the form of rain or snow, not only is not less, but it equals and even surpasses that which falls in Europe. The number of rainy days in the United States is also not less than in Europe, with the exception perhaps of the British Islands and Norway. On the other hand, it appears to be greater than in Eastern Europe. Yet the climate is, nevertheless, on the whole, drier in the United States than in Europe. The reason for this is very simple: it is that during clear weather the air is less charged with humidity than in Europe. The atmosphere does not, as in England and the west of Europe, continue in a state nearly that of saturation, but the moment the rain ceases, and a change of wind brings back fine weather, the hygrometer falls immediately, and the dew-point keeps sensibly below the temperature of the surrounding air.

Now let us quote what M. Desor regards as the physical and moral changes induced in us by this peculiarity of climate. They are not altogether complimentary, but still interesting and partly true:

The history of the United States does not extend over a sufficiently long period to furnish us with conclusive data upon the modifications which the different races of animals imported from Europe may have undergone through the influence of climate. It is man himself who will furnish us with the most instructive facts upon this point.

It is now nearly two hundred and fifty years since the first colonists established themselves on the shores of New England. They were, as is well known, dissenters, who expatriated themselves because they wanted a larger share of religious liberty than the English Church was disposed to allow them. They were in every respect true

Englishmen, having all the physical and moral characteristics of the Anglo-Saxon race. At the present day, after but little more than two centuries, the inhabitant of the United States is no longer simply an Englishman. He has traits which are peculiar to himself, and which cannot be mistaken any more than the English physiognomy could be confounded with the German. He is, in a word, developed as a Yankee or American type. But as this type cannot be the result of a crossing of races, since it is the most marked in the Eastern States, precisely where the race is less mixed, it must be the consequence of external influences, among which we must place in the first rank those of climate.

One of the physiological characteristics of the American is the absence of *embonpoint*. Pass through the streets of New York, Boston, or Philadelphia, and you will hardly meet one out of a hundred individuals who elbow you who is corpulent, and that one will most generally be found to be a foreigner or of foreign descent.

What particularly strikes us in the Americans is the length of the neck; not, let it be understood, that they have the neck absolutely longer than ours, but that being more slender it appears longer. In turn, the American easily recognizes Europeans by opposite characters. It has happened to me more than once that in forming conjectures with friends upon the nationality of individuals whom we have met on a public promenade, I had doubts as to their origin, while the Americans decided upon the point without hesitation. "But look," said they, "at the neck. No American has a neck like that."

The same remark applies, and with more strength, to the fair sex; and what will perhaps astonish us is that, far from complaining of it, they appear to felicitate themselves upon this peculiarity. In fact, it is from this that the delicate and ethereal expression arises which is so much vaunted in the American women. But while we may recognize what there may be of attraction in this type, which, with or without reason, the poets characterize as angelic, I think I do not deceive myself in supposing that our European women, in being more robust and plump, have not any less claims on our admiration.

The difference which I have just pointed out between the Americans and the Europeans, is not only the result of a less development of the muscular system, it depends as much if not more on the reduction of the glandular system, and in this regard it merits serious attention on the part of the physiologist as involving directly the future of the American race. It is this that the most intelligent have foreseen; they have felt that there must be a limit to this excessive delicacy of forms, and it is for this reason that, notwithstanding their instinctive aversion to the Irish (who furnish the largest contingent of emigration), they are far from being opposed to the immigration of that race, who, by the plenitude of their forms and the richness of their glandular system, appear made to resist with better effect the influences of the American climate. The remark has, in fact, often been made that the handsomest women are those born of European parents.

More than this, these influences of climate are observed to operate not only on a new generation, but are seen in many instances in individuals when they change their residence from the eastern to the western continent.

FOREIGN MILITARY AND NAVAL ITEMS.

At the Royal Dockyard, Woolwich, a number of workmen belonging to the works department of the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, are engaged caulkling the King William dock, adjoining the basin of the dockyard, and making it water-tight for the reception of about 200 miles of telegraphic cable, to be used for firing marine torpedoes along the coast.

The dock sent by the English Government to Bermuda is likely to return a portion of its cost in earnings. It seems that the lords of the Admiralty have netted a considerable sum by docking the steamship *St. Francisco*. The net expenses incurred on the occasion were £53, and the sum paid by the owners of the vessel amounted to more than £800; the charges being made up according to the tariff of the St. George's Company.

A CIRCULAR has been sent round to the officers in the various purchase corps of the British service, to inquire "whether officers of the army, in the event of purchase being abolished, would willingly accept the regulation value of their commissions to be paid on the day appointed by the government for purchase to cease, waiving all future right to sell and all claims to over-regulation money." It is added in a postscript that the sanction of the Duke of Cambridge and Secretary of State for War have been obtained for communicating with officers on this subject.

The general staff of the British army, *Broad Arrow* informs us, is to be consolidated under one designation, so that in future officers will be designated as officers of the staff, and will most probably be ranged in classes. The office of quartermaster-general being abolished, officers will be appointed on the general staff whose duties will correspond to those of deputy adjutant-general, deputy quartermaster-general, and so on. It is also understood that each staff officer will be available for employment in whatever branch the general officers in command may consider advisable. These changes it is expected, will take place on July 1.

THE English *Army and Navy Gazette* recommends that an increased degree of practical education be secured to those who are in future to have the command of the ships and fleets, by appointing to the ironclads, months, or certainly weeks, before the vessels are fully commissioned, the captains and commanders, as well as the chief officers of the executive, engineers', and carpenters' departments, with a view to their making themselves thoroughly acquainted with the many contrivances—pipes, cocks, valves, engines, etc., with which such ships are now fitted.

THE first commander of the insurgent army in Paris was an ex-midshipman named Lullier, who had been dismissed from the Navy. His command of the Army of Paris was not of long duration, owing to his having exhibited strong symptoms of mental alienation

which were found exceedingly dangerous by his colleagues. Lullier was, therefore, sent to prison. Next the forces of Paris were under the direction of a military triumvirate, consisting of Generals Bergeret, Eudes, and Duval. General Bergeret commanded the Place Vendôme on the day of the massacre. Duval was formerly blacksmith, and Eudes formerly a student.

THE German Correspondent says: "It will not be the fault of Germany if the late war between this country and France be not followed by a lasting peace. The question is: Will the French at length make up their minds to renounce their long and fondly cherished illusions, and meet the advances of the Germans half way? Will the powers which during the contest remained neutral now use their influence to promote the interests of peace? Switzerland and Italy seem both disposed to accept the *fait accompli*, and we think that, notwithstanding some differences of opinion between us, we can reckon on the concurrence of England, especially as at the commencement of the war English public feeling was decidedly in favor of Germany. It is true that more recently many Englishmen have appeared ambitious of emulating Cato, and adopted as their motto, *Victrix causa Diis placuit, sed victa Catoni*; but on the other hand the cause of Germany has found able defenders in England in such men as Carlyle and Sir J. Sinclair."

FREDERIC DE ROUGEMONT, a well-known author of geographical works, has recently published in Switzerland a work in which he says: "We have chatted with the sixty Pomeranians, prisoners of the French, who have passed forty-eight hours in our town. All of them had good clothes and shoes; they conducted themselves well, and had an honest, frank, amiable, and intelligent air. One could perceive that they had had a good education both at school and at home, and that military discipline had 'set them up.' They were all able to read and write. When a Swiss officer approached them they at once rose to salute him, and replied with exactitude to all the questions put to them, with respect to their corps and their campaigns. They speak of their officers with affection and confidence, and cannot sufficiently praise the care they have shown in providing for their food and shelter at night. They also seem to be proud of the severity with which their smallest faults are punished. The offer of one of our clergymen to celebrate divine service for them was gladly accepted, and as each had a hymn-book with him, they began to sing one of their favorite chorals. They refused money when it was offered to them, and they had no need of it. Is not this the true picture of a civilized soldier? The French soldiers seemed to belong to a different world from the Prussians. One would have thought that no higher authority had taken the least care to feed, clothe, or lodge them, and that they must have come from a half-savage country, where no art but the manufacture of arms was understood. Almost all complained of their officers, and the charges they brought against them were of so serious a character that charity compels me to pass them over in silence. The greater part of them had very erroneous ideas with respect to their own actions and exploits and the strategical movements of an army. They said they had everywhere been victorious, and that they had been compelled by treachery to retreat. A large number of them could neither read nor write. We could not receive them all beneath our roofs without a certain fear."

MARRIED.

[Announcements of Marriages should be paid for at the rate of fifty cents each.]

LOMIA—ROBINET.—On Thursday, April 20, at St. Clement's Church, Philadelphia, by the Rev. H. G. Batterson, LUIGI LOMIA, U. S. Army, to LAURA M., daughter of the late ALBIN ROBINET. (No cards.)

WARD—MOTT.—On Thursday, April 20, 1871, at the residence of the bride's father, by the Rev. A. B. Beach, D. D., THOMAS WARD, U. S. Army, to KATE L., daughter of Thomas S. Mott.

DIED.

FITZOSBORNE.—February 12, at the residence of his father-in-law (W. D. Berry), 1,824 Mervine street, Philadelphia, HENRY WOODWARD FITZOSBORNE, formerly gunner in the U. S. Navy.

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WAR DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER, WASHINGTON, D. C., April 17, 1871.

PROPOSALS FOR SUPPLIES FOR THE SIGNAL SERVICE OF THE ARMY.—Sealed proposals, in duplicate, will be received at this office until 12 m. on Monday, the 8th day of May, 1871, for supplying the Signal Service of the Army with the following articles, viz:

One hundred (100) Service Sets of Signal Equipments complete consisting of Hickory Staffs, Copper Canteens, Torches and Funnels, Canvas Cases with Rubber Pouches, Muslin Flags, Scissars, Pliers, Haversacks, etc.

One hundred (100) Telescope Holders.

One hundred (100) four-foot Red Flags.

One hundred (100) four-foot White Flags.

Twenty-five (25) two-foot Red Flags.

Twenty-five (25) two-foot White Flags.

Forty (40) Canvas Cases and Straps (complete).

Twenty-five (25) Funnels.

Twenty-five (25) Pairs Scissors.

Twenty-five (25) Pairs Pliers.

Fifty (50) Small Straps.

Two hundred (200) pounds Wicking.

The equipments must be made to conform exactly with the models in this office, where other conditions and requirements will be made known to those who desire them.

The whole supply must be furnished on or before June 1, 1871.

Envelopes will be endorsed "Proposals," and addressed to the undersigned.

By order of the Chief Signal Officer of the Army,

L. B. NORTON,

First Lieutenant and Brevet Major U. S. Army, Property and Quartermaster Officer, Signal Service.